Hafa Adai!

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Joaquina Santos' counsel: What is the US gov't hiding? PAGE 3

Friend: Murdered Korean businessman usual victim of robbery, burglary. PAGE 6

'Lawmakers circumvent the law'

Saipan delegation OKs local bill after 5 hours debating

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Rep. Tina Sablan has said the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation circumvented the Local Law Act of 1983 when they passed on a 16-2 vote a local bill that reprograms lapsed/unobligated funds of $9,742 which substantially grew to almost $3870,342 after a substitute bill and floor amendments were offered on Thursday instead of introducing a new bill to give ample time for review and comments.

Sablan

See LAWMAKERS on Page 4

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

A young woman stands in the middle of lit candles representing victims and survivors of cancer in the CNMI during the 2009 March Against Cancer that started at 6pm on Friday and wrapped up on 6am on Saturday on the grounds of Hopwood Junior High School in San Antonio.

MMAC nets $77K, Team Bodig wins four awards

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
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REPORTER

Over $77K in total money was raised during the 2009 Marianas March Against Cancer with Team Bodig reaping four of the nine special awards.

The event was held from 6pm last Friday until 6am Saturday at the Hopwood Junior High School and was the culmination of the 2009 MMAC Week.

Despite fewer participants and a visible decrease in the number of luminaries sold compared to the past years, the $77,249.35 in total funds raised surpassed last year's $71,000.

Pacific Islands Club topped the *Pution* category with a total collection of $15,421.17, the biggest among all categories.

Team Bodig raised $11,045.42 to lead the *Pulan* category, while Trans-

See MMAC on Page 4

Tight security at State of the Commonwealth Address

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Heightened security measures will be in place for Gov. Benigno R. Fitial's 2009 State of the Commonwealth Address on Wednesday morning in the House of Representatives chamber at the Honorable Jesus P. Mafnas Memorial

Fitial

See TIGHT on Page 4

203 graduate from NMC

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Northern Marianas College conferred diplomas and certificates to 203 students during its 29th commencement exercise Saturday that saw the attendance of hundreds of guests and spectators at Marianas High School Gymnasium.

The institution also recognized the achievements of outstanding graduates conferring academic awards to two summa cum laude, 13 magna cum laude, and 22 cum laude students.

Top on the list were Nicole Deleon Guerrero Benjamin from the associate in applied science in business administration program, and Jan Michael Macaraeg Reyes from the liberal arts associate program

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HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Northern Marianas College conferred diplomas to 203 students during its 29th commencement exercise Saturday at the Marianas High School Gymnasium.

POLL RESULTS

Do you agree with the governor's call for another one-year delay to federalization?

Yes-59

No-139

No opinion-8

Sunday, May 24, 2009

PANDEMIC ALERT STATUS PHASE 5

As of May 22, 2009

Phase 1: Viruses circulating among animals have yet to cause infections in humans.

Phase 2: An animal influenza virus is causing infection in humans, and is considered a potential pandemic threat.

Phase 3: An animal or human-animal influenza virus has caused sporadic cases or small clusters of disease in people, but has not resulted in human-to-human transmission sufficient to sustain community-level outbreaks.

Phase 4: Verified human-to-human transmission of an animal or human-animal influenza virus able to cause "community-level outbreaks."

Phase 5: A strong signal that a pandemic is imminent and that the time to finalize the organization, communication, and implementation of planned mitigation measures is short.

Phase 6: The pandemic phase, is an indication that a global pandemic is underway.

For more information about the H1N1 flu, contact DPH at 236-8797, Monday to Friday, from 8am to 5pm, 234-8950 during after hours, e-mail cnmipheoc@gmail.com, or visit www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/.

Source: CNMI Department of Public Health, World Health Organization

INSIDE

Roh Moo-hyun, 62

Former President Roh Moo-hyun, embroiled in a penetrating corruption investigation, leaped to his death–a shocking end for a man whose rags-to-riches rise took him from rural poverty to Seoul's presidential Blue House.

Asia...Page 16

Local

PIC bartendress wins 'Taste' competition

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
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REPORTER

For the first time, a bartendress broke the stranglehold of men in the bartending competition at the 2009 Taste of the Marianas.

When Therese Rio was declared champion with her "Burnett's Queen Freshness" creation, it did not only surprise the huge crowd but also the 34-year-old mother of two.

"I didn't expect this," Rio said after besting 11 of her rivals that included nine men.

Rio was the first ever woman to win the event since the inception of the bartenders' competition in 2001.

Rio said she was really nervous at the start because it was the first time she competed in the Taste of Marianas event.

She, however, is a three-time champion of wine mixing contests when she was still working at Hotel Nikko Saipan.

The three-year staff of PIC said she practiced juggling for over two months to prepare for the competition.

She also admitted that she did not watch the men perform to ease the pressure, which she said somehow clicked.

"I told myself that I could do it. I just tried my best," said Rio, who dedicated her win to her friends, husband, and their two kids.

Asked what she thinks earned her the nod of the judges, Rio said it was her captivating smile.

The judges for the competition were Bien Seiko Inc. manager Gani Benoza, IT&E business sales manager John Mantanona, and IT&E marketing associate Brad Ruszala.

Rio, who garnered 232.5 points from the judges, took home the top purse of $75, a night stay at the Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino, plus a brand new cellular phone from IT&E.

Rio's co-employee at PIC, Ji Hyun Kang, earned 230 points to place first runner-up with her "Island Mist" concoction.

Rio and Ji finished in a triple tie with Willie Garon of Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan in the best in showmanship award. They earned 81 points.

Michael Lim of Country Club was second runner-up with his "The Green Burnetts" after totaling 227.5 points, while Marlon Pineda of Saipan World Resort was third runner-up with 227 points.

Two contestants were given the Best in Taste award—Emil Gammad of Tinian Dynasty and Jojo Solmarin of Moby Dick.

Hyatt Regency Saipan's Amapola Castro won this year's award for Best in Props & Costume. The other contestants were Jovel San Juan of Tinian Dynasty with 222 points, Bernard Aquino of Hyatt Regency Saipan with 206.5 points, Rommel Usi of Fiesta Resort with 205 points, and Ramil Eustaquio of Wonderful Bar with 163 points.

In the battle of champions, Jaymar Torres of Aqua Resort Club won both the overall championship and the Best in Showmanship awards after beating Jay Santos of The Flair.

This year's recipes included Burnett's Vodka and Coca-Cola products.

The event was organized by the Northern Marianas Bartenders Association headed by its president Lito Espino and the Marianas Visitors Authority.

MVA's Judy Torres gave out the awards and prizes to the winners.

NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
Therese Rio, a three-year staff at the Pacific Islands Club, pours wine during her winning performance in the 2009 Taste of the Marianas bartending competition held Saturday night at the American Memorial Park.

DPW starts bidding for Puerto Rico Dump's final closure

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The Department of Public Works has started soliciting sealed bids for construction of the Puerto Rico Dump's final closure.

DPW Secretary Diego B. Songsong in an interview with *Saipan Tribune* Friday said the Puerto Rico Dump's final closure project has a total of $11.2 million funding coming from the U.S. Department of Interior, Office of Insular Affairs.

"Hopefully within five weeks we can determine a contractor if everything goes well," Songsong said.

The secretary said design for the project has been completed while permitting is on the final stages.

DPW Solid Waste technical consultant Steve Hiney said since 2003 the Puerto Rico Dump has not received garbage, but it's never been closed to federal regulations.

"So what we are doing here is complying with the federal regulations as it come to closure,"Hiney said.

Under the project, the objectives are the following:

■ Final cover section with a hydraulic conductivity;

■ Drainage layer to assist in removing liquid from above the low hydraulic conductivity layer;

■ Vegetative growth to reduce erosion and provide a park-like setting;

■ Treat gases generated by landfill decomposition;

■ Storm water control system; and

■ Slope revetment to protect slopes from storm wave action and storm run up.

Hiney said the intent is to the greatest extent possible have a park-like setting when it is done.

"There's maybe some potential for us to put some benches but that's going to be determine as we move to the process," he said.

Hiney said when everything is completed, DPW is going to monitor and manage the project for 30 years.

In 2006, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency cited the closure of the Puerto Rico Dump as one of its Pacific environmental enforcement accomplishments for the year.

U.S. EPA said the dump has been a source of water pollution for over 50 years and the final closure will greatly reduce the dump's adverse impacts to the surrounding ocean ecosystem.

ON MOTION FOR IN CAMERA INSPECTION OF NOTEBOOK

Joaquina Santos' counsel: What is the US gov't hiding?

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The U.S. government's "request for secrecy" between the federal court and the prosecution over the notebook used during the jury selection in the trial of former Lt. Gov. Timothy P. Villagomez and co-defendants James A. Santos and Joaquina Santos, "is ridiculous," according to Joaquina's lawyer.

Attorney Ramon K. Quichocho asked the U.S. District Court for the NMI to deny the U.S. government's motion for in camera inspection of its notebook.

"The government wants to have a secret with the judge. What is the government hiding?," Quichocho stated in Joaquina Santos' opposition to the U.S. government's motion.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Eric O'Malley said the notebook would be submitted in response to arguments and allegations that were levied against the U.S. government.

A legal proceeding is "in camera" when a hearing is held before the judge in his or her private chambers or when the public is excluded from the courtroom.

O'Malley said specifically, Villagomez and the Santos couple have claimed that the U.S. government engaged in an organized and intentional effort to seed the jury with relatives of witnesses.

"There was no such effort. The notebook would be provided so the Court may decide for itself whether there is any truth to the defendants' allegations," he said.

The prosecutor explained that the notebook is a compilation of the information received by the U.S. government's jury consultants; it has not been changed or altered since it was used at trial.

But Quichocho said essentially, the U.S. government seeks to have the defendants' motion for a new trial due to prosecutorial misconduct, denied without a hearing and without any further arguments from defendants.

Citing a precedent Ninth Circuit ruling, Quichocho said "absent such compelling justification, ex parte proceedings are anathema in our system of justice and, in the context of a criminal trial, may amount to a denial of due process."

The defense lawyer said as pointed out, the U.S. government's proffered purpose in seeking to submit its notebook in camera and *ex parte* is to save the court and the defendants' time and resources.

He said an in camera inspection by a court in chamber can never be a better substitute to a full disclosure, open inspection and examination that is conducted more openly and in the presence of all parties interested in the case.

Quichocho said a full disclosure of the contents of the government's notebook in an open and adversarial proceeding where all interested parties are present, and allowed to participate, is appropriate here.

Defendants have a pending motion to disqualify U.S. District Court for the NMI chief judge Alex R. Munson.

Quichocho said his client therefore, does not waive any right to have an impartial judge.

He said to allow Munson to conduct an in camera inspection first being determined would seriously compromise the disqualification motion itself, and more importantly, the other more substantive motion for judgment of acquittal and motion for a new trial that was filed in this case.

Last April 24, the federal jury returned a verdict of guilty on all counts against Villagomez and the Santos couple.

Last May 1, the defendants filed several motions, including motions for a judgment of acquittal or new trial based on allegations that the defense had learned after the verdict that some of the witnesses were related to some of the jurors.

Maximo reacts to Taotao Tano's criticism of guest workers

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
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REPORTER

The guest worker groups that held a 72-hour sit-in demonstration in front of the TSL Plaza in Garapan were not demanding improved immigration status, but only appealing for sympathy and understanding of their plight, the Philippine Consulate office in the CNMI clarified yesterday.

This was in reaction to a recent letter by Greg Cruz to Consulate General Wilfredo DL. Maximo where the Taotao Tano leader expressed his disappointment on the "continued demands for improved immigration status here in our homeland by foreign nonresident guest worker organizations such as DEKADA, United Workers Movement or Coalition and all other foreign organizations involved."

Maximo

Cruz said a demand of status is disrespectful to local U.S. citizens, whom he said "have been generously hosting the foreign guest workers in the CNMI over two decades."

Cruz said the demands is "a sign of pure self-interest agendas and complete disrespect to the people of the Commonwealth."

Maximo, however, didn't agree with Cruz's observation.

"I would characterize the guest worker groups more as appealing for sympathy and understanding in their quest for a betterment of their plight, something I'm sure you will not begrudge as a fellow Christian," Maximo said in his response letter to Cruz.

Maximo stressed that the "sparse number" of those who held the four-day peaceful assembly "did not disrupt the conduct of normal activity in the area."

Maximo said that peaceful and orderly exercise "is a privilege that you and I enjoy in this showcase of American democracy in the Western Pacific."

In his letter to Maximo, Cruz said that any foreign guest worker who had lived for 10 to 27 years must submit through the proper administrative process.

The Taotao Tano leader also hit the worker group's call to seek the assistance of Philippine President Macapal Arroyo to intervene and appeal to the U.S. government on behalf of the foreign guest worker organizations in the granting of more permanent immigration status.

Maximo said the plea to the Philippine president is well within the rights of the demonstrators.

"While we at the Philippine Consulate do not encourage people to engage in demonstrations of this sort for whatever reason, it would be presumptuous on our part to prevent them from exercising their basic rights to form associations and to peaceably assemble—rights guaranteed also under the Philippine Constitution, which was heavily patterned after the U.S. own Bill of Rights," noted Maximo in his letter to Cruz.

"I would say therefore, let these poor folks pursue, no matter how faint or hopeful, their quest for improved immigration status," Maximo told Cruz.

Live the Fiesta Way!
What's cooking this week at Chambre BAR
Healthy Menu
Main Course
MONDAY- Teri Yaki Salmon Broil
TUESDAY - Broiled Chicken Breast with Honey Mustard Sauce
WEDNESDAY - Japanese SUMOU Style Hot Pot (CHANKO NABE)
THURSDAY - Chicken Brest Pot au Feu
FRIDAY - Mahi- Mahi in Citrus Sauce
Including: Hot Vegetables, Tofu, Soup, Salad Bar & MORE....
May 25 to 29, 2009
Monday to Friday
11am to 1:30pm
Reservations are required due to limited seating's
Please Call 234-6414
ext. 1547-1548 or 233-6414
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MEMORIAL DAY
Please join us in honoring our fallen heroes and saluting the men and women of the armed forces.
JUAN PAN TENORIO GUERRERO
&
JOSEPH NORITA CAMACHO
EXPERIENCE • HARD WORK • SOLUTIONS
Paid for by the Committee to Elect Juan Pan T. Guerrero and Joseph N. Camacho

MMAC

From Page 1

portation Security Administration came up with $3,562.75 in the *Atdao* category. Grace Christian Academy had $2,492.19 in the *Napu* category.

Bodig got three more awards including most luminaries sold with 1,194 for a total sale of $5,970. It also went home with the best baton and was adjudged with the best spirit.

TSA, for its part, was awarded with the best tent.

Team Binadu of Marianas Health and Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School emerged with the most laps. They came up with a total of 727 laps.

Like in the previous years, several cancer survivors in the CNMI were presented with medallions including Bishop Tomas A. Camacho, who opened the activity with an invocation.

After the team courage lap, Saipan Mayor Juna B. Tudela and Acting Gov. Eloy S. Inos delivered special remarks while Maggie Camacho, one of the cancer survivors, gave her testimony.

Several government agencies and private companies involved in the 2009 MMAC were Hopwood Jr. HS, Xerox Office Machine Saipan, ERICO Enterprises, Northern Marianas College, Friends GI Hinemlo, Office of the Gov. and Lt. Gov, Commonwealth Cancer Association, Department of Public Works, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation, Coral Ocean Point, Department of Public Safety, American Red Cross-CNMI Chapter, Marianas International Travel Agency, and Diocese of Chalan Kanoa.

This year's title sponsors were Bank of Guam, IT&E, Delta/Northwest Airlines, Take-Care/FHP, Sorensen Media Group, Duty Free Shop, and Joeten Charitable Foundation.

The major sponsors were Bank of Saipan, Saipan Mayor's Office, Younis Art Studio Inc., DOCOMO Pacific, Shell Marianas, Bank of Hawaii, Angil Design, Hyatt Regency Saipan, Images Saipan Ltd., and DFS Durables Club of Saipan.

TIGHT

From Page 1

Building on Capitol Hill.

The joint legislative session to receive the governor's address will start at 10am.

The Constitution requires the governor to report at least annually to the Legislature regarding the affairs of the CNMI and new measures that are necessary or desirable for the islands.

House Speaker Arnold I. Palacios and Senate Pres. Pete P. Reyes, in a memorandum, advised members of the Legislature of the heightened security measures and that access into the legislative building will be at 8am.

"Parking spaces in front of the building will remain vacant prior to and during the event…To ensure that the joint legislative session begins on time, we kindly request all members to be at the legislative building no later than 9:15am," they said.

Palacios and Reyes also reminded lawmakers that the attire for the session is coat and tie for men, and business wear for women.

The 16th House of Representatives has 20 members, while the Senate has nine.

Bishop Tomas A. Camacho will offer the benediction, while Joseph Taijeron Jr. will be the master of ceremony during the program.

In previous years, the SOCA was held at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe.

Last year, the Senate and House disagreed on the venue of the SOCA, but later on agreed to hold it at the multi-purpose center. This year, however, the session will be held at the legislative building which is much smaller than the multi-purpose center.

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who were named this year's summa cum laude.

In their commencement address, the two gave back the honors to their families in recognition of their unconditional support to their goals.

They lauded the college for persevering to become the best institution for everyone on island.

Both are grateful to their mentors in aiding them to successfully complete their two-year program at the college.

Top honors in the bachelor degree programs were Lourdes Liane Hart and Keoni Deleon Guerrero Ichihara from the bachelor of science in elementary education.

Hart, a mother to two kids, will be starting her career in Fall semester as a second grade classroom teacher at Public School System and vowed to pursue her master's degree at the Framingham College at the same time.

"Never stop learning, keep going for your goals and don't let little setbacks sets you back because I believe when you push forward and you try really hard you will get the end result…which is the degree that you desire," she told *Saipan Tribune*.

Ichihara, who came from the family of educators, said he's excited to begin the new chapter of his life.

In September, he will join the public school system as a sixth grade classroom teacher at William S. Reyes Elementary School.

He plans of taking his master's after gaining a year teaching experience to better equip and prepare him to the next level of education.

"I had a great experience all throughout my four-year course at NMC and I am proud of what we achieved today," he told *Saipan Tribune*. Ichihara's parents and two older sisters and a number of relatives are all serving the public and private schools.

"It runs in the family…and I am happy to join them in this profession," he added.

Acting Gov. Eloy Inos and NMC president Dr. Carmen Fernandez also named two students as this year's student leadership awardees: Matthew Camacho Cabrera from the associate degree and Joaquin Ogo Kiyoshi Jr. from the bachelor degree.

Students who were recognized for their outstanding achievements in their field included Juan O. Cruz III from the adult basic school diploma and Janel Pangelinan from the general education development diploma.

The list of outstanding graduates included:

■ **Summa cum laude:** Lourdes Liane Hart, Keoni Deleon Guerrero Ichihara, Nicole Deleon Guerrero Benjamin, and Jan Michael Macaraeg Reyes.

■ **Magna cum laude:** Roxanne April C. Pangelinan, Aileen S. Benavente, Emily Young, Gina Lynn B. Tomokane, Dawei Tang, Wilma Atalig, Laurence L. Cambe, Lourdes Liane Hart, Keoni Deleon Guerrero Ichihara, Erin Kathleen Mortensen, Joseph John S. Muna, and Nerine Villagomez.

■ **Cum laude:** Vanessa Cabrera, Roque Indalecio, Tasi Faith Taitano, Victoria Emilia Tudela, Angelina Noemi Yobech, Sandra Lynn Arnold, Zayna-Zoe Zeme Camacho, Rowena Cunanan, Mary Rose Alvarez, Jihyun Kim, Carlynn Attao, Soledad Franchesca Camacho, Clarissa Ann Cruz, Nanette Yvonne Hurst, Jingmin Zhu Indalecio, Joo Hee Kim, Joaquin Ogo Kiyoshi Jr., Diane Abigania Mallari, Elena Marie Basa Mendiola, Hae Mi Oh, Maria Joannes Tumaquip, and Lourdes Villazon.

LAWMAKERS

From Page 1

Sablan said substituting bills whole-cloth during sessions defeats the purpose of Public Law 3-077 of the Local Law Act of 1983.

But House Speaker Arnold I. Palacios, in an interview on Saturday, said lawmakers followed the law by passing the local bill that only consolidated various bills that went through the three-session appearance process and the 30-day comment period by the mayors.

The Local Law Act of 1983 requires that each local bill shall lie on the desks of members in the House in which it was introduced for three legislative days.

During the three legislative days, any lawmaker may move that the bill is not a local matter that may be the subject of laws enacted by the members of the respective senatorial district.

"But what has happened at literally every SNILD session this term, and at many sessions of the local delegations in prior years, is that a local bill that goes through the process mandated by law is then substituted whole-cloth with an entirely new bill during the session of the local delegation and passed in that completely new form," said Sablan.

The original version of the House Local Bill 16-30 appropriated only $9,742 in lapsed unobligated funds, for the installation of window and door shutters at the Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council Office.

This office had been burglarized eight times between November 2002 and November 2006.

The amount ballooned to $387,742 which will also benefit other projects and programs as a result of a substitute bill introduced by Rep. Ray N. Yumul and other floor amendments introduced by others members on the day of the session.

Members of the delegation debated the bill for five hours, which started at 9am. After a lunch break, the session resumed at 1:30pm.

During Thursday's session, Sablan again asked for legal opinion on the apparent circumvention of the law which she and Rep. Diego Benavente also raised during previous SNILD sessions.

Counsel Mike Ernest did not issue a formal opinion but after a quick review of the law said that whole-cloth substitutions of local bills during the session did appear to be a violation of at least the spirit of the Local Law Act.

"Lawmakers, of all people, should not be straining to justify the legality of their actions. We of all people should at least try to err on the side of following the law," said Sablan.

She added, "And just because a violation has been committed frequently in the past does not make it right. If local delegations could simply substitute local bills that were completely different from the original bill that had followed the three-day rule and been reviewed by the mayor, what, then was the point of the Local Law Act?"

The Local Law Act of 1983 also says that no local bill or local appropriation or revenue bill may be enacted by a legislative delegation until the mayor from the respective senatorial district has had an opportunity to review and comment on it.

The mayor or his designee has 30 days in which to review and comment on all local bills.

"Fortunately for us, the mayor of Saipan was there during the session and was able to review the bill, the substitute bill and the floor amendments," Palacios, a candidate for lieutenant governor in the November elections, told *Saipan Tribune*.

He said everybody also had the chance to comment on the bill.

Palacios said Sablan has valid concerns, and to prevent such misunderstanding about the law, he said the delegation should have more sessions.

"I think we need more local delegation sessions so that people won't try to rush to accomplish everything in one session," Palacios added.

Palacios said another floor amendment requires the secretary of the Department of Finance to submit a report to the delegation accounting for every single dollar appropriated for the programs or activities.

Three delegation members were not present at the session: Reps. Ed Salas, Heinz Hofschneider, and Ray Palacios.

Rep. Justo Quitugua, co-author of HLB 16-30 along with Rep. Oscar M. Babauta, gave verbal assurance during the session that funds appropriated by the bill are available.

Other members of the delegation believed that substituting bills whole-cloth during sessions may be a violation of the law but they also believed that the appropriations were important to pass on Thursday.

For example, the Junior Statesmen Summer School Program, which is appropriated $25,000 under the local bill and the American Pacific Nursing Leadership Conference, which will receive $10,000, will be held soon.

Pet projects

The final bill passed appropriates money for the following projects and activities:

■ $15,000 for the window and door shutters, repairs and renovations for the Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council Office

■ $9,742 for a bus shelter in Tanapag

■ $10,000 for a bus shelter in Puerto Rico

■ $5,000 for a bus shelter in Kagman

■ $10,000 for a bus shelter in Precinct 1 and repairs to the San Vicente basketball court

■ $50,000 for instructional materials, tools, and supplies for the Northern Marianas Trades Institute

■ $200,000 for water and power line extensions at Bwooseт Place, Talafofo, As Matuis, and Langasat

■ $25,000 for the Junior Statesmen Summer School participants from Saipan

■ $10,000 for the American Pacific Nursing Leadership Conference from June 15-19, 2009

■ $30,000 for Karidat

■ $25,000 for the Northern Islands Mayor's Office for operations

■ $5,000 for the San Antonio Manhoben Center

Lack of accountability

Besides Sablan, the only other Saipan lawmaker who voted against House Local Bill 16-30, SS1 or the local appropriation bill was Sen. Maria "Frica" Pangelinan during the session.

During the session, Pangelinan questioned the lack of reports accounting for the money previously appropriated for the same programs such as the Junior Statesmen Summer School.

Sablan also raised concern about accountability.

"Why were we appropriating $50,000 to the Northern Marianas Trades Institute, for example, a nonprofit organization that has already received over $100,000 from the local delegation and is eligible for educational tax credits, SHEFA scholarships, WIA tuition assistance, and grants?" said Sablan.

Rep. Ramon "Ray" Tebuteb, chairman of the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation, also questioned the appropriations. He cited, for example, the American Pacific Nursing Leaders Council led by Lee Q. Castro which originally asked the Legislature for a $35,000 budget for their upcoming conference.

"Do they really need $35,000?" asked Tebuteb.

The local bill passed gave the nursing council $10,000 for the conference.

Tebuteb, in an interview, said the nursing council was already able to solicit $15,850 from private donors, and is also expecting other donations.

Castro, when asked by Tebuteb during the session, said the council has not asked the Department of Public Health for funding but only asked to allow its staff to attend the conference.

The nursing council also has leftover fund of $4,500, said Tebuteb.

No public hearing

Sablan, an independent lawmaker, at the same time raised concerns over her colleagues' failure to consider holding a public hearing before reappointing three board members who did not even show up during the delegation session on Thursday.

By a 15-1 vote, the legislative delegation reconfirmed the appointment of Henry S. Hofschneider to the Commonwealth Zoning Board.

Only Sablan voted no on Hofschneider's confirmation due to lack of public hearing.

It was also the same reason why Sablan voted no on the confirmation of Josephine T. Sablan and Magdalena Camacho on the board of the Saipan Higher Education Financial Assistance.

Their confirmation passed also on a 16-1 vote.

The delegation also passed on a 14-2-1 vote Rep. Rosemond Santos's House Local Bill 16-28 which requires the phase out of adult gambling machines by Jan. 1, 2011, although the Zoning Board may approve extensions to allow for amortization of the business investment.

Fourteen members voted "yes." Two voted no—Sablan and Rep. Stanley Torres. Sen. Luis Crisostimo abstained.

Int'l percussionist, music conductor visits Manta Band

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Well-known music conductor and international percussionist Atsushi Ozawa was on island last week to visit members of Saipan Southern High School's Manta Band.

SSHS Manta Band members were excited to attend last Saturday's lessons with the master conductor. It was, however, a feeling also shared by Ozawa who first took notice of the group during the recent Tumon Bay Music Festival.

"This is my first time on Saipan…and I am so excited to visit these kids. They're so amazing!" he told *Saipan Tribune*.

Since arriving Wednesday, Ozawa already conducted three clinics for the Manta Band members. He also extended a 90-minute clinic to the young musicians of Saipan Community School Thursday.

Ozawa recalled how the Manta Band surprised spectators at the Tumon Bay Music Festival.

Being the event's adjudicator since the beginning, Ozawa admitted seeing something special from the group.

"They play exciting music with so much passion. People love to hear their gentle and expressive sounds. For me, the Manta Band is one of the hottest groups that can make a big difference in music! I hope to hear more beautiful sounds from them," Ozawa said, adding that this was also the reason he wants to help and assist the members in developing and enhancing their skills.

SSHS has been holding the prestigious Tumon Bay Music Festival Sweepstakes Trophy for two years and had dominated the event early this year.

According to Will DeWitt, the Manta Band conductor and music director, the visit of the master conductor and well-known percussionist was an experience they will never forget.

"This is the best thing that ever happened in the eight years of the program. The result of this is very far reaching," said DeWitt.

He said he is grateful to Ozawa for imparting his knowledge to him and his wards.

"As a music conductor myself, I have learned a lot and I can say that I've learned more from him than the many classes I have in my four-year college course. He's truly amazing and I thank him."

DeWitt lauded Ozawa for keeping and maintaining the "strong connection" with the Manta Band members.

He said after the music festival in Guam, the master conductor has been exchanging e-mails and correspondences with his students.

For freshman student Anna Rose De Leon Guerrero, the visit of the music expert is an experience she will always remember.

"I was so excited! I have so much fun meeting him," she said, adding that she's looking forward to see Ozawa in next year's music festival.

De Leon Guerrero plays the trombone for the Manta Band.

Trini MacDuff, who has been at the festival for two years, said she's always excited of the event.

"With all the new techniques from the maestro, it would help us in our performance. I am so happy to see him and played music together," said MacDuff, who plays the flute for the band.

Besides dominating the music festival for two years, the Manta Band also performed in the 2008 Beijing Summer Olympics.

Ozawa has been in the music industry for two decades. He studied at the Shanghai Conservatory of Music and was involved in various musical organizations, including the professional group of Shanghai Symphony Orchestra, the Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra, and the Bangkok Symphony Orchestra in Thailand.

In numerous occasions, he also traveled to the United States to impart his musical skills with the young musicians among these are Las Vegas, Texas, and the Nevada University.

Though he admitted having more opportunities to work with professionals, Ozawa said it is his ultimate goal to inspire and share his talents with young and amateur performers.

MONETH G. DEPOSA

Well-known music conductor and international percussionist Atsushi Ozawa, seated center, poses with the Saipan Southern High School's Manta Band members and its music director and conductor Will DeWitt after Saturday's clinic at the school.

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American Bankers Association *Banking Journal*

Recently, the experts at the American Bankers Association *Banking Journal* completed their annual performance rankings of financial institutions. And of all the publicly traded large financial institutions in the U.S., Bank of Hawaii Corporation earned the #1 spot as the Top Performing Bank for 2008. It's an achievement we at Bank of Hawaii are proud and honored to accept on behalf of our 2,500 employees. Thanks to their hard work and dedication, Bank of Hawaii has not only earned this tremendous recognition, but something much more important: your trust and your confidence. To read the ABA *Banking Journal* article in its entirety, please visit boh.com/safe.

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Friend: Murdered Korean businessman usual victim of robbery, burglary

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The murdered Korean businessman in Tanapag was a usual victim of robbery and burglary the past few years, *Saipan Tribune* learned.

A close friend of the 65-year-old Jae Soung Shim disclosed that Shim's New Star Market was robbed and burglarized thrice by unidentified person or persons believed to be also residents of Tanapag.

The friend, who requested anonymity, said Shim was actually planning since last year to move to the U.S. mainland where his daughter is staying.

The businessman, however, could not leave Saipan because he had over $60,000 credits that remained uncollected from some of his customers residing in the neighborhood.

"Mr. Shim would complain that some customers who owed him money would even harass him whenever he asked for payment and refused to give them more credits," the friend said.

Shim was known as an expert in airplanes and his friends believe that he used to be a Korean military pilot.

Police arrested Ezra K. Deleon Guerrero, 25, last Tuesday for the murder of Shim during a robbery inside his store in Tanapag.

A detective stated in his report that prior to the attack, a witness saw Deleon Guerrero, put on a black ski mask and say: This is good for Papa-san, no!" The witness stated that the suspect appeared intoxicated.

The suspect was later seen handing out bills to children at a house near Shim's store, New Star Market. A witness heard the defendant bragging he just knocked out Papa-san.

Shim, also known as Papa-sang in Tanapag village, was reading something behind the cashier's counter on May 17 when Deleon Guerrero allegedly slowly entered and repeatedly struck him with a *tangan-tangan* stick on the head.

Autopsy showed that the victim sustained multiple skull fractures, which were a result of repeated blows to the head.

KEEPING IN TOUCH NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
Staff Sgt. Francisco Ada receives phone cards from Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos to be distributed among the 70-strong reservists from the CNMI who are stationed in Kuwait. Looking on is Senate President Pete Reyes, a Vietnam War veteran.

Defunct garment firm told to pay wages to eight more alien workers

The Department of Labor has found the defunct Rifu Apparel liable to owe wages for unprovided work to eight more of its alien workers.

Labor Administrative Hearing Officer Jerry Cody said the eight Chinese workers—Xi Shi, Fei Yue Zhou, Ai Ping Chen, Xiao Yan Li, Yun Li Li, Qin Liu, Bing Bing Bai, and Zhi Hong Chen—were inadvertently omitted from the last administrative order.

Cody ordered Rifu Apparel to pay the workers in the amounts ranging from $842 to $1,628.2.

The hearing officer said in the event that Rifu fails to pay the wage awards in a timely manner, the applicable surety bond company shall be responsible for paying such amounts to the limits specified in each bond.

"Failure to pay the bonds in bad faith may lead to sanctions assessed against the bonding company," he said.

Cody required Rifu to provide repatriation airline tickets for all the workers who do not find new employers or who decide to go back to their country.

According to Labor records, an administrative order was issued last Feb. 27, which addressed the wages issue due to 56 Rifu workers as a result of the factory on Saipan.

After the order, Labor identified the eight more workers who had been inadvertently omitted from the list submitted by the Labor Hearing Office Director in preparation for the order.

Rifu paid wages of its employees through Dec. 6, 2008. The factory notified Labor and its employees of its intent to close its operations permanently on Feb. 6, 2009.

During a status conference, Rifu acknowledged its obligation to pay to its workers for 30 days following the official notice date of closure.

The workers were working under a 32-hour work week at $4.05 per hour, earning $129.60 per week.

Rifu owes its employees unpaid wages for the period from the last paycheck on Dec. 6, 2008, until the end of the 30-day notice period on March 8, 2009, or the end of their work permits, whichever comes first.

Labor earlier found Rifu to owe wages for unprovided work to 56 of its alien workers plus medical expenses to four of those employees or for a total of $85,083.89.

Rifu's general manager Kidong Choi informed Labor on Nov. 19, 2008, that apparently due to the delayed in the confirmation of orders from the buyers, there would be no production activities in the factory in San Vicente starting that week until the first week of March 2009.

Choi told Labor that workers should continue reporting to the factory as they will still be getting paid.

Rifu claimed that it planned to stop its operations temporarily for several months and then resume business operations.

Rifu then paid all of its current employees their wages through the period ending on Dec. 6, 2008.

On Feb. 6, 2009, Rifu gave a notice to Labor that it had closed permanently as of that date. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Departments asked to report number of employees, hours of leave taken

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Sen. Maria "Frica" Pangelinan and Rep. Ray N. Yumul asked government department heads to report the number of their personnel and the hours of leave taken during calendar year 2008 to help in the review of the Fitial administration's proposed Fiscal Year 2010 budget.

Pangelinan, chair of the Senate Fiscal Affairs Committee, along with Yumul who chairs the House Ways and Means Committee, is gathering pieces of information regarding current public employment.

"One area is the amount of leave being used," Pangelinan and Yumul said.

Pangelinan's office is now compiling the information gathered from department heads.

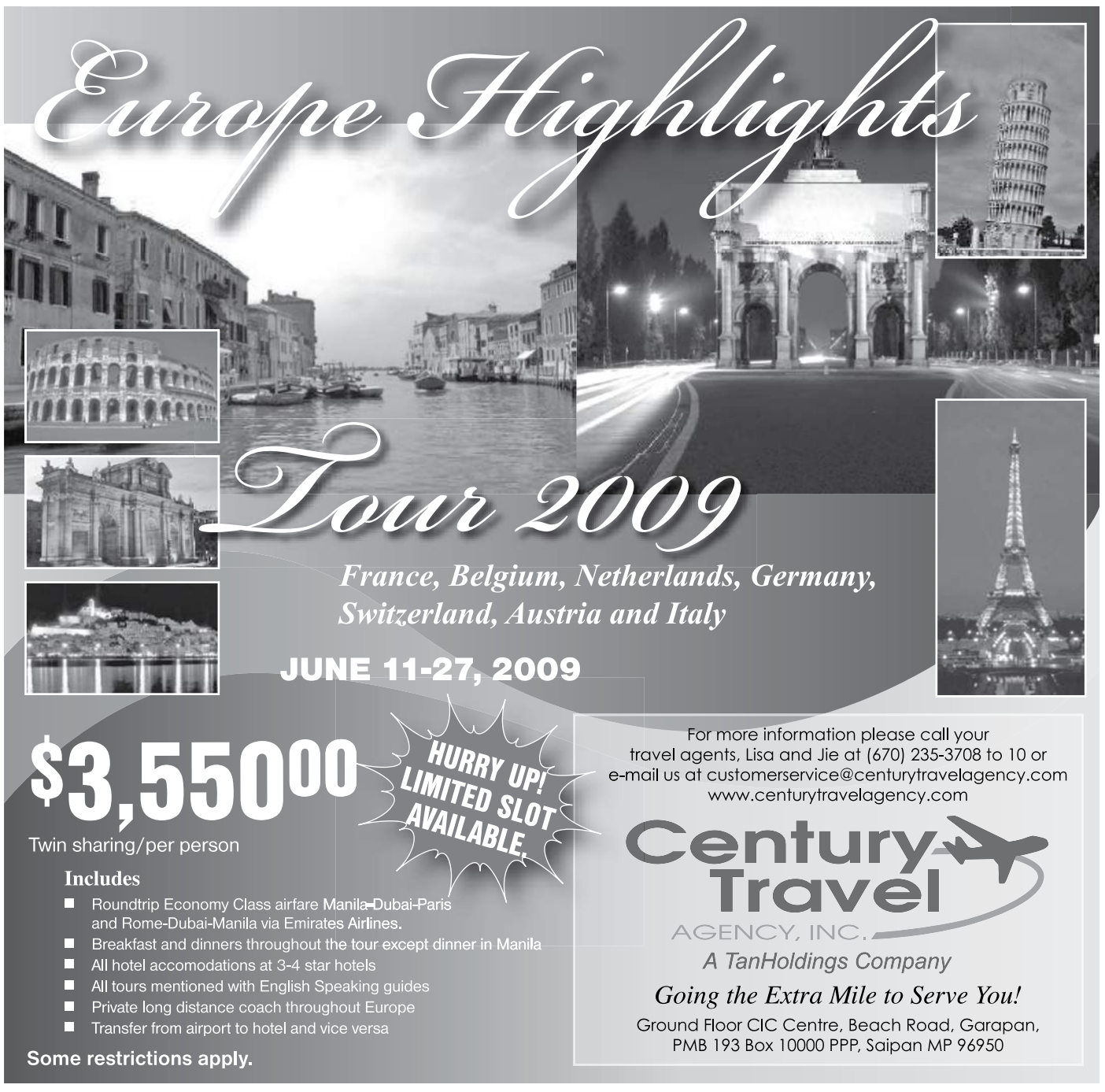
In a memorandum, Pangelinan said data provided is essential to building a better understanding of the needs of each department and the use of human resources to meet those needs.

On April 1, the Fitial administration proposed a $162.82 million budget for FY 2010, which runs from Oct. 1, 2009, to Sept. 30, 2010.

The Senate and House's fiscal affairs/ways and means committees have since been working on the governor's budget proposal.

Earlier, Yumul's office found out that the government hired an administrative assistant, a clinical attendant, and a conservation technician right after the enactment of the FY 2009 budget that restricts hiring until Sept. 30, 2009, except for critical positions and replacement hires.

An administrative assistant started working for $24,999.52 a year, two days after the March 13 signing of the law. The administrative assistant's salary was much higher than the $13,703.04 annual salary of the clinical attendant 1 who started working three days after the budget bill became law. A conservation technician earning $11,279.84 a year started working on March 23, based on a list provided to Yumul by Isidro K. Seman, acting director of the Office of Personnel Management.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Ryu, Lee top Saipan Community School graduates

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Fourteen-year-olds Jin Min Ryu and Yeo Jin Lee emerged as outstanding graduates of Saipan Community School after receiving the highest academic honors during the school's commencement exercises held Thursday at the Korean Presbyterian Church in Chinatown.

Ryu was named this year's valedictorian and recipient of four other special honors including perfect attendance, outstanding academic achievement award, student of the month, and ukulele elite award.

Ryu is the eldest daughter of Ryo Yang Soo and Lee Kin Hee who are based in Korea.

In her valedictory address, the honor student emotionally expressed her gratitude to her grandparents—Hong Ae Ja and Lee Moon Heang—who guided her through the years.

"I am greatly honored to receive this award…and I would like to dedicate this to my grandparents who supported and guided me all the way. I will not be standing here today if not for their sacrifices," she said.

Ryu also commended the hard work and dedication of her mentors who helped her to become a good student.

"We will never forget you all for what you have done for us… for our education," she said.

Ryu will enroll at Mount Carmel School to continue her secondary education.

"This is just the beginning… and I am excited for my high school," she told *Saipan Tribune*.

Yeo Jin Lee, for he part, was named the class salutatorian. She was also awarded three other recognitions including perfect attendance, outstanding academic achievement award, and the school's loyalty award.

She is the youngest daughter of Kyung Yi Lee and Kyung Soo.

"It feels good!" she said after the momentous moment.

Lee said she's excited to start another chapter of her life. "I am excited for my high school."

"I thanked my parents for working hard to educate me. I know it's not an easy work to do…and I truly appreciate their support," she said.

This year's batch of graduates was comprised of 18 middle schoolers.

Principal Bobby Winkfield and Debbie Winkfield also named Sabina Calvo, Bryan Cho, Justin Poon, Hee Ji Cho and Jonelie Torres as the other awardees for best attendance.

Gold medalists for the President's Education awards included Ryu and Justin Poon, while silver medals were awarded to Lee, Savina Calvo, Hee Jin Cho, Christian Tudela, Francisco Camacho, Albert Yen, Bryan Cho, and Jonelie Torres.

The other recipient of the ukulele elite award was bestowed to Jonelie Torres while Poon received the scholar/athlete award.

Students of the month who were recognized in the ceremony included Ting Fung Chan, Brian Cho, Sabina Calvo, Jonelie Torres, James Ko, Ji Min Ryu, Victoria Reyes, and Christian Tudela.

Tamiko Winkfield served as the event's inspirational speaker for the graduates.

In his message, SCS principal Bobby Winkfield said he was proud of the students' achievements.

"I hope and pray that you'll be successful in whatever you do for your future. I thanked all the parents and teachers for their guidance and wisdom," he told the crowd.

The event was also highlighted by a special video presentation by the graduates dedicated to their parents and guardians.

MONETH G. DEPOSA

Saipan Community School principal Bobby Winkfield, center, poses with this year's outstanding middle school graduates Jin Min Ryu, left, and Yeo Jin Lee after the commencement ceremony Thursday night at Korean Presbyterian Church in Chinatown.

Humor makes life longer: expert tells *man'amko*

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
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REPORTER

Dr. Janna Wilgus is pretty sure the older citizens of the CNMI are a funny lot and for her it's just the right attitude for seniors who want to enjoy life.

So when she spoke before over a hundred *man'amko* at the Conference On Aging Friday at the Raraina Dining Room of Aqua Resort Club, Wilgus made sure she traded jokes with them throughout her speech.

"The key ingredients to enjoy a longer life is to live with humor because humor is a reflection of a good attitude," says Wilgus, who was the keynote speaker of the event, which is part of the observance of Older Americans Month/Mes Man'amko/Maramal Tufeey.

Wilgus gave the *man'amko* some tips to stay healthy and its benefits to older people both physically and emotionally.

"I told them that I also learned a lot from them saying I observed that this is a naughty group of young people and sorts of jokes like that after all it must have been true that laughter is the best medicine," she said.

Wilgus emphasized to them the importance of exercise to keep them healthy and with humor, she said, it improves health.

In his message, Gov. Benigno R. Fitial stressed the important role the senior citizens play in the Commonwealth.

"In our traditional cultures, in both the Carolinian culture and Chamorro culture, we place great emphasis and respect on our *man'amko*, our valuable citizens, important members of our community with much to offer and much wisdom and experience to impart on our younger generations,' Fitial said.

Secretary of Department of Community and Cultural Affairs Cecilia Taitano Celes urged to continue to be respectful of the elders, cherish the moments of opportunities to listen to their stories, heed their words of wisdom and enjoy the time with them not only for the month but carry on into the future.

Acting Director of the Office on Aging Rose DLG Mondala said the theme of the conference "Living Today for a Better Tomorrow" reminds all that "we should live to the fullest and endure what we have now so that the days to come will be a better one.

This Memorial Day
As the community takes this holiday to rest or picnic it is important for us to recall that this day, Memorial Day is dedicated to the remembrance of soldiers who have fallen in the service of our country.
Families around the country are grieving the loss of loved ones lost in conflicts around the world. In our own community, families are without sons, daughters, fathers and mothers, members of the armed services who have died in conflict worlds away.
Let us mark this day with a special remembrance of these soldiers, their families, and the ultimate sacrifice that they have made for our country.
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www.heinzarnold2009.com

More prizes at stake in Car Rally

With more prizes at stake this year, *Beach Road Magazine's* 3rd Annual Car Rally takes island adventure a notch higher.

Winners this year will get $200, $150, and $100 in cash for first, second, and third prizes. Every team gets a prize for making it through the course. Prizes include steak, seafood and all-you-can-eat *teppanyaki* dinners for two at The Palms on Pau Pau Beach, a GSM prepaid phone with starter kit and $20 load from Docomo Pacific, as well as gifts from Saipan Grand Hotel, Boarderline, Thrifty Car Rental, Micronesian Brokers, Inc. and Laolao Bay Golf Resort, among others.

"I'm hoping the rally participants are ready for a more challenging event this year," says car rally master and *BRM* account manager Susan Marchitti.

Asked what participants can expect from the 3rd *BRM* Annual Car Rally, Marchitti remarks, "The course will be a little longer and they can expect some surprises."

For her part, Marchitti hopes there'll be some adventurous tourists who will take part and families that will participate, too, as "kids really seem to have a lot of fun."

Last year, 17 teams participated in the 2nd Annual *BRM* Annual Car Rally where Amanda Hayes, U.S. District Court staff, and her team took first place. Given the mental challenges on the road, Hayes, in a media statement, said winning the car rally was unexpected.

This year, the rally remains open to drivers 16 years and older and tourists are invited to take part. Each car is required to have at least one driver and as many navigators as needed to complete the course.

BRM's car rally is a competitive motoring event patterned after car rallies in the United States and Europe. Drivers are tasked to complete a course by following instructions that test the team's attention to detail and navigation skills. The starting point will be announced upon registration. A new set of instructions is given at every checkpoint. Following the instructions to a T is crucial, as it can make or break a team's chances of accumulating points to win the car rally.

Registration is $15 and space is limited to 60 cars. Grab a copy of *BRM* for the entry forms or pick up one at Subway Restaurants, fill them out and submit to the Glimpses of Saipan office on the second floor of the Transpac Business Center along Middle Road, Gualo Rai (near Subway restaurant) during regular business hours from 8am to 5pm.

So, gear up and get ready for the most challenging car event of the year, sponsored by Joeten Enterprises, Shell Marianas, American Red Cross, Division of Fish and Wildlife's Brown Tree Snake Program, and Budget Rent a Car.

See *BRM* print ads for details or call 235-7645. ***(PR)***

A Night of Commedia dell' Arte on May 26 and 27

The Thespians of the Western Pacific Islands, the International Thespian Society Chapter in the Western Pacific, will be presenting their 2nd Annual Junior/Senior Play production, "A Night of Commedia dell' Arte," at the Multi-Purpose Center, on Tuesday, May 26, and Wednesday, May 27, 2009.

The productions will be directed, designed and performed by members of Thespian Troupes from Cha Cha Oceanview Junior High School, Hopwood Junior High School, Kagman High School, Marianas High School, Saipan American Education Foundation, and Saipan Southern High School.

The Three 16th and 17th century *Commedias* are: "The Courters," a traditional Italian *Commedia*, and two Spanish *Commedias* originally written by Miguel de Cervates "The Magic of Salamanca," and "The Marvelous Playbill," which was adapted by Tim Kelly.

Commedia is one of the oldest of the performing arts, often done in the street, sometimes as puppet shows, or as short pieces between larger productions. The performers often wear traditional masks and standard costumes. Their characters were instantaneously recognizable to their audiences.

Spanish *Commedia* often focused on magic and devils, and Cervantes' work was quite political.

Many of the cast members will be representing the CNMI this June at the International Thespian Festival in Lincoln Nebraska.

Proceeds from this production will be used to support the CNMI's Thespian Chapter Scholarship Fund and future Chapter productions.

This year's $1,000 scholarship winner, Sung Yul "Tommy" Baik, is part of the cast of "The Marvelous Playbill," and will be attending The University of Iowa.

His scholarship was supported by funds from The Friends of the Arts, The Thespians of the Western Pacific Islands, and The Educational Theatre Association, parent group of the International Thespian Society.

Curtain is at 6:30pm. Tickets are $3 for students and $5 general admission. ***(PR)***

Earthquake jolts Rota

An earthquake with a magnitude of 5.1 on the Richter scale hit Rota and Saipan Saturday morning.

The Emergency Management Office said there was no tsunami threat to the Marianas. No damage to property or injuries was reported to EMO.

Only few people on Rota and Saipan felt the quake.

EMO said the earthquake occurred at 10:40am and was centered at latitude 14.046 degrees north and 125.180 degrees east.

This is about 10 miles south-southwest of Rota and 85 miles south-southwest of Saipan.

Last April 17, three earthquakes with a magnitude of 4.7, 4.9, and 5.0 on the Richter scale hit Rota. But EMO also reported there was no tsunami threat to the Marianas and no damage to property or injuries reported.

Only few people on Rota did not feel the earthquakes. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

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***BRUCE L. MAILMAN** is a member of the American Immigration Lawyers Association and has provided immigration services in the CNMI since 1989*

***MAYA B. KARA** is a former CNMI Acting Attorney General, Chief Legislative Counsel, Governor's and Lt. Governor's Legal Counsel and DOL Hearing Officer*

HIGH COURT OF AMARICAN SAMOA
TRIAL DIVISION

DANIEL PANTEA Petitioner, VS. MAY REUNION LOGO SOLO Respondent.	)	DR No. 63-08 NOTICE OF PUBLICATION & PUBLICATION NOTICE

TO/IA: MAY REUNION LOGO SOLO

YOU ARE HEREBY GIVEN NOTICE that a Complaint has been filed against you before the High Court of American Samoa. The Complaint is for a divorce. You are required to serve an answer to the Complaint on Sharron Rancourt, attorney for Petitioner, whose mailing address is P.O. Box 4844, Pago Pago, American Samoa, 96799, no later than two (2) months and ten (10) days after the date of the first publication of this notice. You must also serve a copy of your answer on the Clerk of the High Court.

If you fail to do so, a judgment by default will be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

Ua faaailoa atu nei ia oe ua faauluina nei i le Faamasinoga Maualuga, se mataupu faasaga ia te oe ona o divorce.

Ua polo'aiina nei oe ina ia tauaaoina se tali i lenei mataupu ia, Sharron Rancourt, loia so le itu fagi, ma o lona tuatasi o le P.O. Box 4844 Pago Pago American Samoa 96799, a o le'i mae'a masina e lua (2) ma aso e sefulu (10), mai le'ulua'i aso sa fa'asalalauina ai lenei fa'asilasilaga. E tatau ona e-tauaaoina mai se kopi o lau tali i le Failautusi o le Faamasinoga Maualuga.

O lou le utagia mai, ma e tuuina mai sei tali i lenei faasilasilaga, o le fai ai loa e le Faamasinoga se faaiuga i lenei mataupu, mo se fescaoani e pei ona talosagaina e le itu tagi.

Dated/Aso:

/s/ Clerk / Failautusi
High Court of American Samoa
Fa'amasinoga Maualuga
o Amerika Samoa

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

MAY 25, 1999

Holding area on Tinian questioned

Concerned over its implication, Sen. Frank Murkowski (R-Alaska), chair of the U.S. Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, has pledged to look into the federal government's decision to use Tinian as holding area for close to 500 illegal Chinese immigrants. This contradicts a plan by President Clinton's Administration to strip CNMI authority over its labor and immigration standards, noting that the reason for the decision is the absence of federal laws on the island providing an asylum program to undocumented aliens, according to the senator. "If we extend the immigration laws, as one portion of the Administration wants, we will frustrate the interdiction and repatriation program being pursued by another portion of the Administration," he said.

Teno thumbs down local preference bill

A legislation seeking a sweeping overhaul of the bidding regulations on government contracts to favor local firms was disapproved by Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio because of the measure's serious legal implications. While the proposal drew praise from the governor for giving local businessmen the chance to participate in government contracts as way of retaining revenues within the CNMI, he was concerned about two key provisions that would violate existing laws. In his message to the Legislature, Tenorio cited the provisions that requires a bidder to establish a local office, as well as the granting of authority to the governor and the attorney general to be the arbitrator of whether a contractor meets the required ownership percentage. The latter, he explained, "infringes on the powers of the judiciary."

MAY 25, 2000

Open market policy keeps NMI consumer prices down

Despite fluctuations in consumer price index with latest figures pointing to higher price levels, the Department of Commerce believes the prevailing open market policy continues to hold basic commodities within the reach of an ordinary Northern Marianas minimum wage earner. Commerce officials said the Northern Marianas market is open enough to allow the entry of new industry players in case existing businesses are considered selling items at higher price levels. Acting Commerce Secretary David S. Palacios said counter prices of commodities sold in various CNMI stores reflect the items' true market value although some goods are being passed on to consumers at a higher price level compared with those in other countries.

Health clinics performing abortions?

Authorities are now keeping a tight watch on clinics suspected of offering abortion after the recent surprise inspection conducted by public health officials. Sources said the discovery of various medical devices which were being used illegally bolstered suspicions that many women are seeking abortion in some of these health clinics. Five health clinics were raided by a combined team from the Departments of Public Safety and Public Health and the Attorney General's Office early this month in efforts to enforce P.L 11-40, or the Pure Food, Drug and Cosmetic Device Act of 1998. Some of these clinics were found to have been dispensing controlled substances and possessing medical devices illegally.

MAY 25, 2001

Consumers buying more cars than trucks

Construction of more paved roads and the relative affordability of new sedan models spurred a shift in the CNMI's automobile preferences from trucks to cars. Commonwealth Auto Dealers' Association figures for 2000 indicate that 52 percent of new vehicle purchases made last year were for cars, a four percent increase from the 48 percent recorded the previous year. The number of car units sold last year was 511, more than a hundred units than the 404 sold in 1999. Conversely, truck purchases witnessed a drop from about 24 percent in 1999 to 20 percent in 2000. Trucks sold last year totaled only 193 units.

CDA notes shift to Microloans this year

The Commonwealth Development Authority expects more small businesses to avail of the agency's Microloan Program this year. CDA Executive Director MaryLou S. Ada said microloans could even outperform its direct and guarantee loans portfolio as businesses shift their lending strategies to more conservative microloans packages in 2001. Moreover, unlike in past years when large corporations flooded CDA with their loan applications, mom-and-pop businesses are the ones queuing up for microloans.

Tinian DPS to conduct checkpoints

The Tinian Department of Public Safety would like to inform the public that the Traffic Section will be conducting OP/CR Checkpoint this week.

The first OP/CR Checkpoint will be held on Tuesday, May 26, 2009, along west bound lane on Broadway Road by the baseball field in San Jose Village, the checkpoint will commence at 7am. The checkpoint will last approximately 75 minutes and will be terminated at 8:15am.

The second setup will be along east bound on Broadway Road by the baseball field in San Jose Village. The checkpoint will commence at 11am. The checkpoint will last approximately 75 minutes and will be terminated at 12:15pm.

The second OP/CR Checkpoint will be held on Wednesday, May 27, 2009, along Marpo Valley road by Hofschneider's warehouse. The checkpoint will commence at 7am. The checkpoint will last approximately 75 minutes and will be terminated at 8:15am.

The third OP/CR Checkpoint will be held on Friday, May 29, 2009, along Broadway Road by Potmer Tinian Democrat headquarters. The checkpoint will commence at 6:30am. The checkpoint will last approximately 75 minutes and will be terminated at 7:45am.

The second setup will be along west bound along Broadway Road by the baseball field in San Jose Village. The checkpoint will last approximately 75 minutes and will be terminated at 12:15pm.

The fourth OP/CR Checkpoint will be held on Saturday, May 30, 2009, Broadway Road on the southbound lane across Star Plaza. The checkpoint will commence at 6pm. The checkpoint will last approximately 75 minutes and will be terminated at 7:15pm.

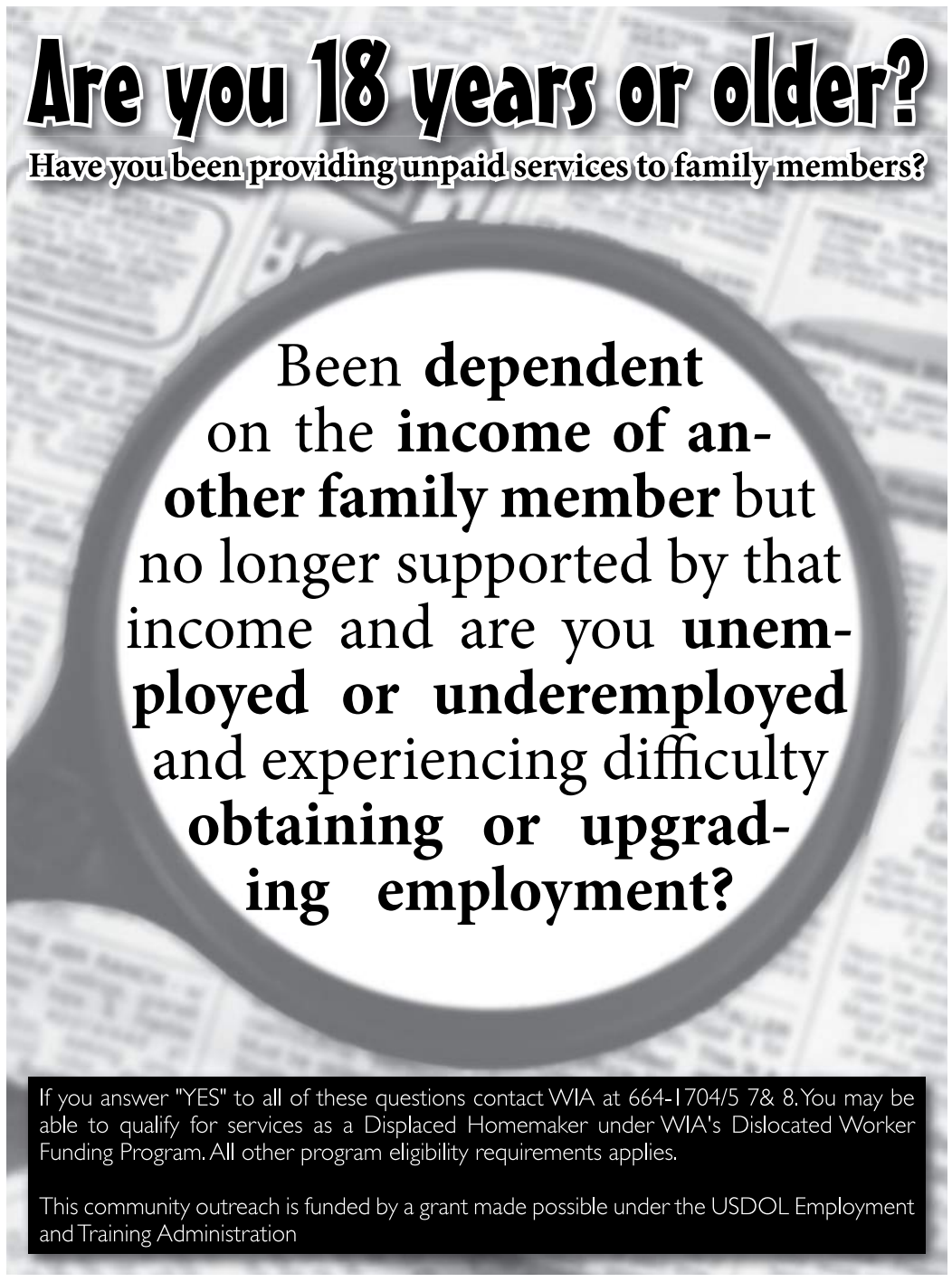
All the checkpoints are subject to be terminated if it begins to rain.

In addition to the checkpoints, officers will be conducting Highway Criminal Interdictions and laser activities.

For more information regards the DUI/Sobriety checkpoint on Tinian, contact PO3 Wally F. Villagomez at 433-9222/433-2041. ***(PR)***

FRIENDLY AGREEMENT CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Saipan Mayor Juan B. Tudela, front row left, and Chuxiong City Mayor Yuan Ping sign a "friendly agreement" between the two locales during the latter's trip to China earlier in the month. Also in the photo are, from left, Chuxiong Mayor translator Mr. Chen, Saipan Mayor's Economic Advisor to China Roman Matsumoto, Saipan Mayor's assistant Jose Tenorio, Saipan Mayor's Appointed Economic & Tourism Ambassador to China Calvin Lai, and two chosen Chuxiong government officers.


Are you 18 years or older?
Have you been providing unpaid services to family members?
Been dependent on the income of another family member but no longer supported by that income and are you unemployed or underemployed and experiencing difficulty obtaining or upgrading employment?
If you answer "YES" to all of these questions contact WIA at 664-1704/5 7& 8. You may be able to qualify for services as a Displaced Homemaker under WIA's Dislocated Worker Funding Program. All other program eligibility requirements applies.
This community outreach is funded by a grant made possible under the USDOL Employment and Training Administration

The House of Representatives
SIXTEENTH NORTHERN MARIANAS
COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE
P.O. BOX 500586, SAIPAN, MP 96950

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

DATE: May 18, 2009

CONTACT: Office of Representative Rosemond B. Santos
Telephone: (670) 664-8965
Facsimile: (670) 664-8966

The House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations will conduct a Public Hearing on Wednesday, June 3, 2009, at 9:00 a.m. at the House of Representatives Chamber, Honorable Jesus P. Mafnas Memorial Building, Capital Hill, Saipan.

The purpose of this Public Hearing is to receive testimony on the following legislation:
Wednesday, June 3, 2009; 9:00 a.m.

1. HOUSE LOCAL BILL NO. 16-26: TO ESTABLISH THE UNARMED COMBAT SPORT AND TO ESTABLISH THE ATHLETIC COMMISSION ACT.

The following witnesses are requested to be present:

1. Mr. Justis F. "Cuki" Alvarez, President, Trench Tech Inc.
2. Mr. Jeff P. Boyer, Operating Partner, Gorilla Warfare MMA
3. Mr. Santiago Tudela, Commisioner, Department of Public Safety
4. Mr. Joseph P. Villagomez, Secretary, Department of Public Health
5. Mr. Gregory Baka, Acting Attorney General, Office of the Attorney General
6. Ms. Cecilia Taitano-Celes, Secretary, Department of Community and Cultural Affairs
7. Honorable Juan B. Tudela, Mayor, Saipan Mayor's Office

Witnesses are requested to submit written testimony to the Committee on or before May 29, 2009.

Interested Members of the General Public are also welcome to submit written or oral testimony.

/s/ ROSEMOND B. SANTOS
Chair

cc: SAPLR
Speaker, House of Representatives
Members, House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations
Media

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC
Use of CDBG-R (Commonwealth Development Block Grant Recovery) Funds
(This advertisement is paid by NMHC with HUD Funds.)

The Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) is announcing a substantial amendment to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation's Program Year 2008 Annual Action Plan as required. The CDBG-R funding is made available to the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. The total CDBG-R allocation is $1,374,719.00. Intended use of the CDBG-R funding is described as follows:

Project Type	Project Name	Funding Allocation
Public Facilities	Tinian Amphitheater	$200,000.00
Public Facilities	Carolina Heights Basketball Court	$200,000.00
Public Services	Rota Elementary School	$200,000.00
Public Facilities	Grotto Bathroom	$ 15,000.00
Public Facilities	NMI-Japan Cultural Center Overhead	$175,000.00
Public Facilities	Chalan Kanoa Kios-ku	$260,000.00
Public Facilities	Northern Marianas Islands Football Association Soccer Facility	$186,978.00
Planning and Administrative Costs	Planning and Administrative Costs	$137,741.00
	Total	**$1,374,719.00**

The Amended plan is available for public review and inspection at NMHC's Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, and at the respective NMHC Field Offices in Tinian and Rota during regular business hours, Monday through Friday, except CNMI holidays. NMHC is inviting the public to comment on the proposed used of funds. Written comments should be submitted no later than 4:30 p.m., June 1, 2009 at NMHC's Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, and at the respective NMHC Field Offices in Tinian and Rota during regular business hours, Monday through Friday, except CNMI holidays.

NMHC does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the admission or access to or treatment or employment in its programs or activities. NMHC has been designated to coordinate compliance with the nondiscrimination requirements of Section 504, the ADA, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Section 504 regulations implemented by the EEOC and the Department of Justice. If you should require any additional information, please contact Ms. Jeannie P. Mafnas, NMHC's Planner/Grant Writer at 234-6866/7689.

JOSHUA T. SASAMOTO
Corporate Director

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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EDITORIAL

War and justice

President Obama sketched out a framework Thursday for the judicial component of the war on terrorism. This war—of indefinite duration, against stateless organizations—may call for new laws and institutions to handle, for example, terrorism suspects who cannot be tried but also cannot be released, he said. At the same time, the government should never hold anyone without judicial oversight and should not create new institutions without congressional buy-in.

This is, as we have said previously, the right framework, but it left some crucial blank spots, and some areas where Obama policy so far is inconsistent with Obama doctrine. Here are a few:

■ Bagram. The United States is detaining foreign suspects in this Afghan prison without judicial oversight, and the administration has argued in court for the continuing right to do so. Prisoners of war swept up on the Afghan battlefield should be handled according to the Geneva Conventions and the laws of war, without interference from civilian courts. But some detainees in Bagram were seized in other countries and taken to that Afghan prison.

If it was wrong for the Bush administration to use Guantanamo Bay to evade judicial oversight in such cases, it can't be right for the Obama administration to use Bagram to the same end.

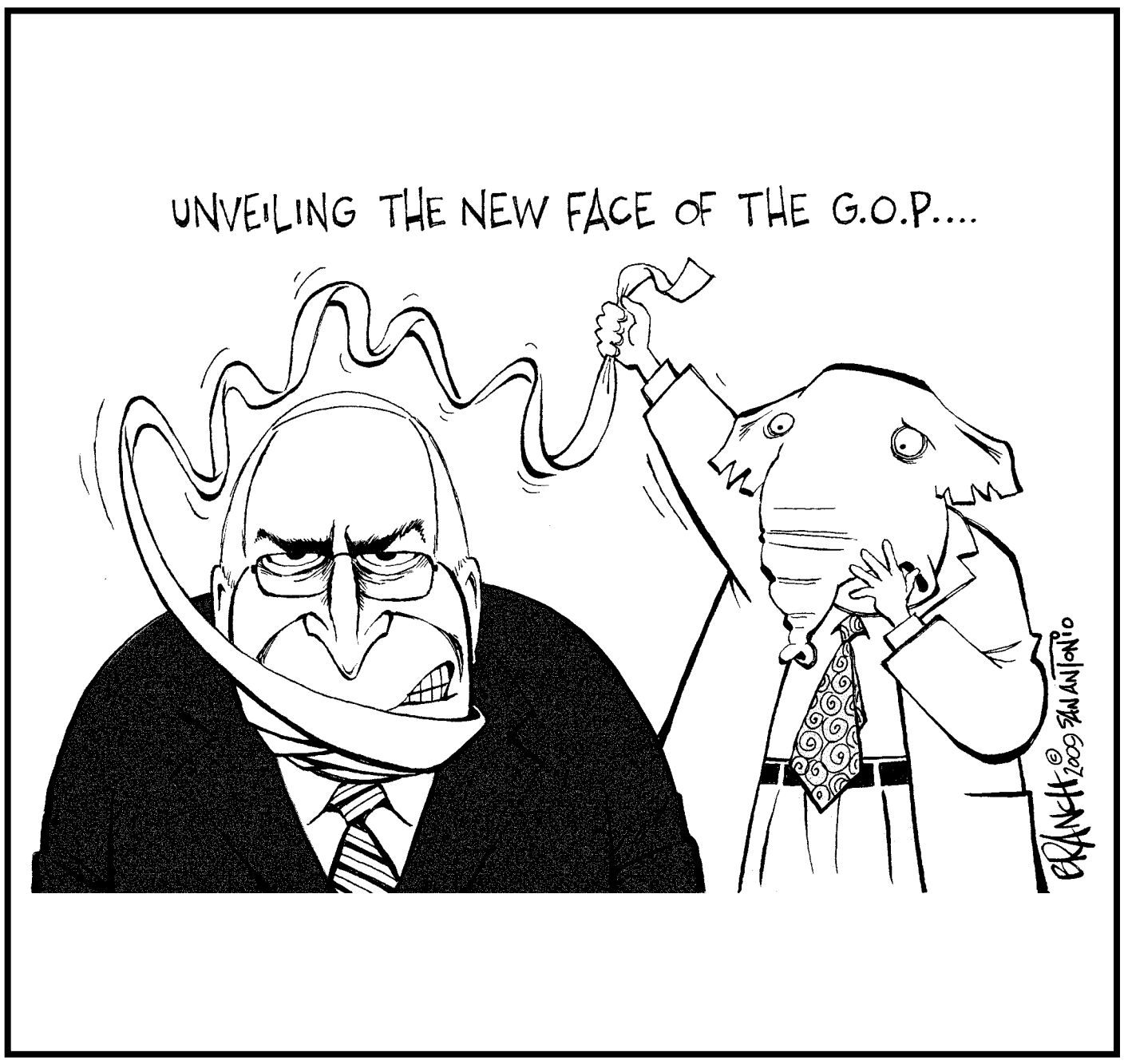
■ The Uighurs. Some people being held in Guantanamo Bay are not enemy combatants at all. The Bush administration—after years of stonewalling—acknowledged as much, and judges have ordered those detainees' release. These ethnic Uighur Chinese cannot go home to China, because they would be persecuted there, and no other country will take them, in part in fear of Chinese retaliation.

"The courts have spoken," Obama noted Thursday. "The United States is a nation of laws, and so we must abide by these rulings." Yet, faced with fearmongering by Rep. Frank Wolf, R-Va., Sen. James Webb, D-Va., and others, the administration seems paralyzed. When is Obama going to "abide by these rulings," and how? Eight years of unjustified incarceration is enough.

■ State secrets. Obama said his administration is planning to reform how it uses the "state secrets" privilege, which allows the government to challenge legal cases—and sometimes get them thrown out of court without further consideration—by asserting that trials in those cases would compromise national security. The privilege is needed, but governments may improperly use it to shield embarrassing or improper conduct. Obama promised to review more carefully when the privilege should be invoked, to invoke it more narrowly, and to report to Congress when it has been invoked and why.

The president's suggested reforms are useful. But voluntary, nonbinding reform by the executive branch isn't enough. The administration should actively support legislation, originally backed by Sen. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., and recently reintroduced by Sen. Patrick Leahy, D-Vt., that would give judges more discretion in weighing executive secrecy claims and more leeway to exclude some evidence without tossing out entire cases. If Obama wants to "leave behind a legacy that outlasts my administration, my presidency," as he said Thursday, he should support binding reform that would do the same.

(c) 2009, The Washington Post



Two-China policy

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Vergara is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune*'s Opinion Section*

President Richard Nixon surprised the world with a visit to Beijing in 1972, so secretly orchestrated by National Security Adviser Henry Kissinger that State Secretary William P. Rogers was excluded from the delegation who met Mao Zedong. Winston Lord who would later become U.S. Ambassador to China was the fluent *Putung Hua* speaker in Kissinger's staff. To follow diplomatic protocol, his photo was extracted from the meetings with Mao to avoid offending Roger's Office. China was not the only one familiar with the practice of "saving face".

Furious meetings with then Chinese Premier Zhou Enlai that saw Nixon visiting Beijing, the Great Wall, Hangzhou and Zhou's Shanghai, resulted in the reestablishment of U.S.-China diplomatic relations, both recognizing and adhering to a one-China policy, withdrawal of U.S. forces from Taiwan, and final establishment of embassies and consular services in each other's domain 1979.

Every morning at 4am on Kunshan Rd. and 4pm on Tai Beishan Rd. in Huanggu District of Shenyang, (northwest of the city within looking distance from the fifth floor where I stir my morning coffee and pour my afternoon Shenyang beer), and in many streets and back alleys in China, street markets, not unlike Saipan's Garapan Thursday street gathering by the Paseo de Marianas, sprout out like mushrooms after a tropical storm.

Pick-ups, dollies and three-wheeled tractors full of vegetables and fruits, seafood, and marine products, dry goods and kitchen wares, along with pedicabs connected to all kinds of mechanical gizmos that mill grains, sharpen knives, mix dough, fry-boil-or-broil all kinds of dishes etc., descend on five-to-seven city street blocks to create instant outdoor markets.

These sidewalk markets virtually eliminate the sidewalks and drive the unwary or unfamiliar driver who makes a wrong turn mad and furious. These markets are staffed by itinerant sellers who sleep in their cabs, or on make-shift tents on fair weather, or live in city *hutongs* (back alleys) that are still abundant in all the urban centers though they are rapidly being bulldozed by city administrators.

Rural to city migration is closely monitored by the Chinese government, and the official population count for Shanghai is 17 million while the unofficial count is 20 million. This 15 percent discrepancy is attributed to undocumented "aliens" who were rapidly absorbed by city industries but are just as rapidly spewed out when there is a decline in contracts and product orders for manufactured goods. The current situation is caused by the radical decline in the construction business as the global market demand shrunk and the residential and industrial expansion shriveled.

In any case, these street markets represent 20 percent of the nation's commerce and trade assets but serve 80 percent of the population. The markets are common, lively, noisy and earthy. They exist everywhere from Lhasa (Tibet) to Qianjin (Heilongjiang), from Ala Shankuo (Xinjiang-Uygur) to Xiamen (Fujian), from Erenhot (Nei Mongol—Inner Mongolia) to Sanya (Hainan). Not surprisingly, they are also a reality in Keelung to Kaohsiung in Taiwan, in the tri-cities of Guanzhou-Shenzen-and-Kowloon, the Beijing-Tianjin corridor, and the river plains in-between the Nanjing-Shanghai-Hangzhou triangle.

In all the major urban centers, there also exists what transpires on Zhangshan Rd. downtown Shenyang everyday. Something like the Zhong Xing commercial and trade center gathers the 20 percent of the nation's population who has access and command of 80 percent of its assets. They have gotten their kids to enjoy the offerings of the double arches or its local equivalent with all its accompanying calories and the resulting obesities; their teenage and young adult sons and daughters order their lattes from the Seattle waterfront Café franchise or its local imitators whose Columbian coffee plantation workers hardly benefit from the $4 I spend for a single cup (non-refillable) of coffee.

Step outside Starbuck Café and any establishment worth a signage on the Parisian Avenue des Champs-Élysées is represented. A little wedding gown shop has fresh pink roses crammed on two 2-ft. by 2-ft. boxes to blend in with their advertised gowns that easily go for $3,000-10,000 each, with matching rubies, jades and diamond

See TWO on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Inaligao dicho adelanton natibu

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.

Gi todo kinalamtenta guine gi O`Perlas iya Pasifiko, debi de ya hululo` i interes pot adelanton taotaota siha. Taya otro attikulo siña tumulaika este na asunto pot taotaota, para taotaota yan ginen taotaota.

Piot pago gi tiempon eskases, ni uno siña umatrebigue umaminasa pinetsigen adelanton taotaota siha. Isao i para un` hasñgune i asunto. Tai sensia antao na mañan responsablidat i umintendet pumatañg para adelanton linala` natibu.

Gi prumet lugat sumen bahu i makenarian ekonomia guine. Mas menos rinikohen fiñkas salape na biahe, lamegai na bisnis humuchom pettan niha. Este na chinatsaga matranslada guato gi mana` fan para taotaota gi chechu niha.

`Nai mantai chechu ya ni mona ni tatte, tumaya para apas primet na guma familia. Los uttimos, man-maamot ni gima niha ya sige pago man-ensinahyao gi gima mañainan niha sino parientes. Sumen na pinite este na chinatsaga ni inafuetsas nu i baban kliman ekonomiata.

Pot esso na hu chochoneg amano i siña umesgaihon nuebo na bisnis ni man-dañkulo pot para bai` kubre, maseha adumididi nesesidat taotaota man-mañoda` offision niha pot para u prebeniye familian niha. Hu tuñgo yan hu komprende kabales chinatsagan tai chechu sa` malofanyu guenao na chalan antes. Hu tuñgo linala` didog na pineble sa ginen ennaoyu mage.

Hu tuñgo hafa ñalañg sa apmam de hu padese mamañot aire yan hanom tupu ni mi-amot Clorox. Megai pumadese este antes lao ni uno sumeha mañufa` gi halom gualo sino lumiof gi halom tasen santatte yan sanmena. Sumen namagof i manfafachochu hit antes `nai ta kubre nesesidat familiata siha.

Mansuette i taotaota na tiempo sa` guaha ayudon foodstamps `nai siña maprebeniye nesesidat neñgkano familian niha. Taya antes este na klasen ayudo ya dimas de un` fama` professot karisu, maulegña un` tulos hao para i lancho sino tase ya un` fan ayuda prumebeniye nesesidat familia. Taya tiempo para lodu chefla pat yeñgyuñg mutuñg damagas.

Pues yangin magahet sentimentomu na un` pinitiye taotaomu siha, egaga` yan un` saonao mumatcha gi todos chechu animo umadelanta appottunidat chochu yan fiñkas pottanmonedan iya Marianas. Este na pinetsige siempre kontodo hago sumen magof gi minachom atdao.

Gi hilo sensian kabayeru, esperansa yan motmut na respeto para kada uno, ta faisen ayudon i Sainata gi todo pinetsigen para minauleg todos. Taya intereshu kreditu soluke benefisiu para hamyo. Si Yuus Maase`!

Letter to the Editor

'Get that money!'

This letter was inspired by the $4.5 million in federal ARRA highway funds the CNMI might miss out on because we were the only state level government in America that hadn't done its home work and filed the proper documentation. The facts are in the details and anyone with common sense can see that someone was asleep at the wheel. I have often questioned how the present administration seems to be incapable of "multitasking" and the loss of $4.5 million is an excellent example. The inability to multitask was obvious to me when the governor couldn't accomplish the simple task of appointing a teacher to the Board of Education, which is required by law. Our leader has been so busy fighting that he forgot the CNMI was supposed to collect $4.5 million before passing go—figuratively.

"Get that money!" is a slang you will often hear in many of the poor areas of America and it made me think about the fact that more than anything our next governor must be able to *get that money* if the CNMI is going to ever get out of this financial hole we have dug. If he doesn't find new sources of income for the CNMI that hole may very well be the burial site of a failed economy and that's for true. I'm not trying to scare anyone but when it comes to the many challenges facing our next governor, the primary solution to an overwhelming majority of our problems being solved boils down to finding new sources of federal funding and the creation of new industries.

When I thought about who among the candidates for governor was best suited to *get that money* it was really a no-brainer because its common knowledge among the people as to their identity. I wanted to share this common sense phenomenon with the public and to make sure this letter is printed I didn't mention the candidate's name. But if you want to know the answer as to which candidate is best suited to *get that money* you only need to ask yourself three questions about the candidates for governor: 1. Who has secured way over $100 million for the CNMI in the past decade? 2. Who has the best established working relationship with the federal because our future is directly dependant on our working relationship with the feds? 3. Who is best suited to work with investors who are approved visitors by the feds to enter the CNMI, especially South Korea and Japan? I'm sure your answer will likely be the same one I got in my poll that showed 54 percent knew the right candidate, 16 percent didn't have any idea, and 30 percent picked the wrong candidate. I'm asking every voting citizen to do their homework on the candidates and think about the right answer to these three vital questions when you make the most important voting decision to-date about the CNMI's leadership for the future because the CNMI needs a governor that can *get that money*!

Ambrose M. Bennett
Kagman

Unsightly deeds

To all the candidates seeking public office whose posters are displayed alongside our streets. Please help us keep our islands clean and beautiful looking by not inserting empty cans of soft drinks, empty cans of beer, or plastic bottles onto the metal or wooden spikes that are driven into the ground for anchoring of your signs. They are unsightly.

You can all help the candidates you are supporting by the things you do including being respectful and considerate.

Efrain F. Camacho
Navy Hill

Sea turtle information update for CNMI

On April 30, 2009, an article appeared in the *Saipan Tribune* entitled: "Poaching remains a big threat to turtle decline." While this technically may hold some merit, a significant amount of information was omitted or misrepresented that I hope to clarify.

Green sea turtles in CNMI are a threatened species (meaning threatened with extinction in the near future) and are protected by federal (Endangered Species Act), local (CNMI Public Law 2-51), and international (CITES) laws.

The CNMI Division of Fish and Wildlife has a sea turtle monitoring program. During a site visit, it was concluded that direct take through illegal poaching of turtles and nests, nesting habitat degradation, and lack of education and public awareness continue to be primary threats to turtles in Saipan. Furthermore, the program could benefit tremendously by integrating local stakeholders into one overarching program that includes cooperation with multiple agencies and the public.

Stakeholder support and involvement will give the program longevity, with increased ability to address localized threats from illegal harvest and new opportunities to inform the public. There are many examples of integrated programs that we can draw upon to help CNMI develop a strong and effective monitoring and conservation program.

Anecdotal information from locals suggests that turtle nesting on Saipan was once a common occurrence. Today, unfortunately, nesting is rare, and those turtles that do return to nest are under intense poaching pressure. Most notably, in 2009 two turtles came ashore to nest. One has already been poached and wildlife officials are concerned about the survival of the second. It is worth noting that the foundation of recovery is based on the size of the nesting population.

Enforcement officers are responding to illegal poaching incidents. Cases have been handed to federal authorities, including the Superior Court. The taking of any sea turtle, of any size class, is against the law. Fines and penalties can range from $5,000 to $25,000 and imprisonment. The prosecution of pending cases may help deter future incidents.

In-water surveys undertaken between 1998 and 2001 (published in 2004) estimated that 1,000 to 2,000 green turtles may occur in the waters of CNMI. These foraging turtles are likely recruits from nesting populations originating from international rookeries. This means that the population of juveniles and subadults in the waters will not contribute to the CNMI nesting population. Therefore, while there may appear to be an abundance of turtles in the water, this is not reflective of the future abundance of nesting turtles within the Marianas because foraging turtles will migrate to other areas to nest.

Conversely, nesting females likely migrate to CNMI from international foraging habitats. Nesting females not only perpetuate the species, but the loss of an adult is a significant impact to the population, given that it may have taken 35 or more years to mature. Not an easy achievement in our modern world of degraded habitats, pollution, fisheries, disease, and poaching. The number one conservation strategy is to protect beaches and females to ensure that turtles can nest, that nests can hatch, and that hatchlings enter the water.

An integrated education and awareness program would greatly benefit conservation efforts. The long-term survival (and ultimate recovery) of the population resides in the hands and actions of local residents to preserve sea turtles for future generations.

The development of an effective program with protocol appropriate for the goals and capacity of the local situation is important. DFW is obligated as a government agency to conserve and manage turtles within the CNMI. However, they can not achieve this alone, but must work collaboratively with partners to identify and implement appropriate monitoring, conservation and management strategies.

Irene Kinan Kelly
NMFS PIRO, Sea Turtle Recovery Coordinator

TWO

From Page 10

jewelries in the next stalls to match, with its astronomical prices as well. Weddings are a growth industry in China analogous to Fiestas in Iberian-influenced places.

These shops would not be in business if there were no customers to patronize them and the *nouveau riche* in the gated new high-rise apartments and condominiums who keep Benz and Porche, BMW, and Volvo, Audi, and the Cadillac, the big R and Jaguar (I drooled over a sleek XJR parked in an ordinary parking lot!) in operation are not hesitant to spend their wealth and display the symbols of their new social status.

Icy-cold Harbin in the Northeast licked the street level open markets as well as the pricey boutiques by building markets and shopping centers underground that they may practice their trade and exercise their commerce below ground in winter. The size of four-by-four blocks fronting the Harbin rail station alone is one underground shopping mall by itself!

The foreign policy of two Chinas that was a feature of the Cold War may be gone but the reality of two Chinas remain. They coexist in the street level of Shenyang, but the open street markets of the early morning and late afternoons tend to serve the needs of the 80 percent of the population who are the new maintainers of urban dwellings and dwellers—folks from the countryside along with the elderly, the low-income laborers, shop employees, construction workers, and consumer goods buy-and-sell traders. The Confucian *literati* and Deng Xiaoping's *glitterati* who merit cushy government positions, private sector management offices, military commands and professional trades, patronize the Zhong Xing centers and its related consumption values and virtues.

The same issue of distributive justice that haunts the rest of the world has also come to roost in proletarian China; the street level markets might circulate 20 percent of China's wealth and thus retain its value at the street level but the 80 percent of the nation's wealth that the 20 percent owns and manages flies out quickly to the coffers of the Camps-Elysees crowd distributed globally by the network of financial institutions who take their substantial cut, managerial associations and their exorbitant fees, and value-added marketing gurus who have appointed themselves as guardians of our global tastes and advisors to our spending propensities.

Alas, this pattern follows the whole geography of the planet. We live in two universes in one planet, and if there is anything we need to learn from the catastrophe generated by the global financial crisis triggered by the unmitigated greed of the military-industrial complex and the structural contradictions of the so-called free market economies, we need to shift economic valuation to the resource and product developers and distributors rather than to the keepers of books of our fortunes. When we learn that, we may actually be saving the face and the future of the planet Earth itself.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲88° ▼79°	▲88° ▼79°	▲88° ▼79°	▲88° ▼79°	▲88° ▼79°

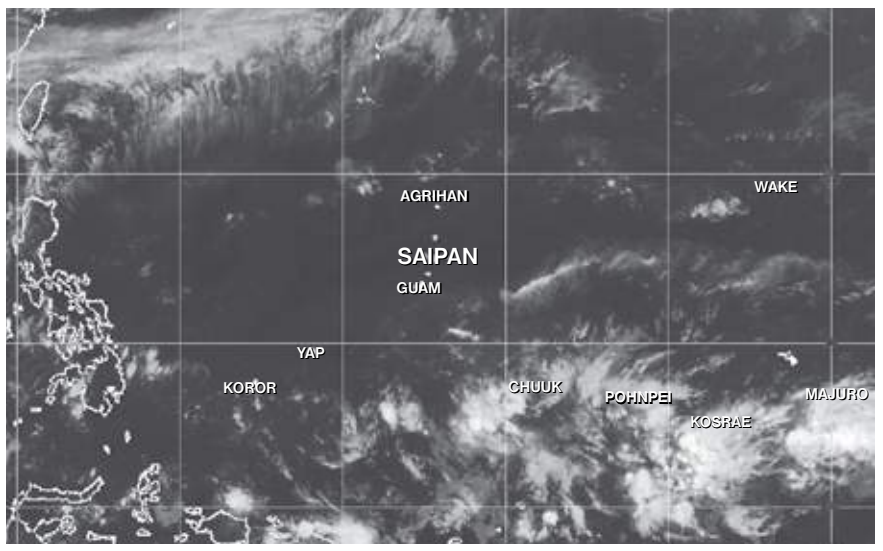
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Mostly Sunny	▲86	▼76
Palau	Mostly Sunny	▲85	▼77
Yap	Rain	▲84	▼78
Chuuk	Showers	▲88	▼77
Pohnpei	Rain	▲84	▼76
Kosrae	Rain	▲84	▼80
Majuro	Showers	▲84	▼77

Around The Globe

Auckland	Mostly Cloudy	▲58	▼46
Beijing	Sunny	▲90	▼65
Hong Kong	Showers	▲85	▼80
Honolulu	Partly Sunny	▲83	▼72
London	Mostly Cloudy	▲66	▼46
Los Angeles	Cloudy	▲74	▼58
Manila	Showers	▲88	▼77
Melbourne	Mostly Cloudy	▲67	▼56
Miami	Mostly Cloudy	▲88	▼74
New York	Cloudy	▲73	▼57
Osaka	Sunny	▲75	▼59
Paris	Showers	▲69	▼47
Pusan	Partly Sunny	▲78	▼62
Rome	Partly Sunny	▲84	▼62
Salem	Mostly Sunny	▲71	▼48
San Francisco	Cloudy	▲69	▼52
Seoul	Mostly Cloudy	▲81	▼58
Tokyo	Sunny	▲75	▼64
Washington, DC	Mostly Cloudy	▲78	▼64

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00AM, SUNDAY, MAY 24, 2009
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Low-level convergence is creating scattered showers west of Wake Island within 70 miles of a line from 19N163E to 21N154E. A low-level trough extends eastward from near Wake Island at 20N165E to a low-level circulation at 23N175E then turns northward to beyond 25N. Cloudiness and scattered showers are seen near the trough axis north of Wake Island or north of a line from 20N163E to 20N170E to 18N180. A monsoon trough stretches northeastward from Halmahera to southwest of Koror at 5N133E and turns east-southeastward through a circulation centered at 2N143E then continues eastward through another circulation centered south of Chuuk at 4N153E to end at EQ158E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are occurring along the trough axis and near the first circulation or south of Koror and Yap within 125 miles of a line from 6N136E to EQ148E. Similar conditions are also found in the vicinity of the second circulation over Chuuk and Pohnpei between the equator and 9N from 150E to 160E. Trade-wind convergence is causing scattered showers over Kosrae and Tarawa Atoll but south of Kwajalein and Majuro or south of a line from 5N160E to 7N170E to 7N174E to 5N180.

Tides

Saipan Harbor		
2:01 AM Today	Low Tide:	1.2 Feet
6:53 AM Today	High Tide:	2.0 Feet
2:22 PM Today	Low Tide:	0.7 Feet
9:34 PM Today	High Tide:	2.1 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:46 AM	6:42 PM
Tuesday	5:46 AM	6:42 PM
Wednesday	5:46 AM	6:42 PM
Thursday	5:46 AM	6:43 PM
Friday	5:46 AM	6:43 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	6:01 AM	7:35 PM
Tuesday	7:05 AM	8:40 PM
Wednesday	8:12 AM	9:40 PM
Thursday	9:18 AM	10:34 PM
Friday	10:21 AM	11:22 PM

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PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

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- Drop off: 2nd Floor, CIC Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
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- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

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Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 9, 2009

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

CO9597	11:50am	12:25pm	1,7

SAIPAN-GUAM

CO9317	4:30am	5:20am	Daily
CO9313	8:30am	9:20am	Daily
CO9597	11:50am	1:20pm	1, 7
CO9601	12:30pm	1:20pm	4, 5
CO9603	3:30pm	4:20pm	Daily
CO9605	6:30pm	7:20pm	Daily
CO9599	9:30pm	10:20pm	Daily

GUAM-ROTA (ROP)

CO9598	2:20am	2:50am	5, 6
CO9312	12:10pm	12:40pm	6

GUAM-PALAU (ROR)

CO893	5:50pm	6:50pm	3, 5
CO953	6:50pm	7:50pm	1, 7
CO953	7:35pm	10:05pm	2, 4, 6

PALAU (ROR)-MANILA

CO893	7:35pm	9:10pm	3, 5

GUAM-MANILA

CO893	5:50pm	9:10pm	3, 5 via ROR
CO933	7:00pm	8:40pm	Daily
PR111	6:00am	7:45am	1, 2, 4, 6, 7

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

NW99	6:00am	8:40am	Daily
NW78	9:00am	2:05pm	Daily via NGO
NW75	3:50pm	6:25am	Daily

GUAM-NARITA (NRT)

CO961	6:35am	9:10am	Daily
NW83	8:00am	1:55pm	Daily via KIX
CO6	12:00pm	2:45pm	Daily
NW73	4:05pm	7:00pm	Daily
CO963	4:35pm	7:15pm	Daily

SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX)

OZ119	4:00am	6:40am	1
OZ119	4:20am	7:00am	4,6

GUAM-OSAKA (KIX)

NW83	8:00am	10:45am	Daily

SAIPAN-NAGOYA (NGO)

NW78	9:00am	11:40am	Daily

GUAM-NAGOYA (NGO)

CO971	7:45am	10:30am	Daily
NW23	4:10pm	7:05pm	Daily
CO975	4:35pm	7:25pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 5

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ604	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ604	2:50am	6:30am	excl 1
OZ119	4:00am	11:20am	1 via KIX
OZ119	4:20am	11:20am	4, 6 via KIX

SEOUL (ICN)-HONG KONG

OZ721	9:05am	11:45am	Daily
OZ723	7:45pm	10:30pm	Daily

SEOUL (ICN)-MANILA

OZ701	8:35am	11:25am	Daily
OZ703	7:50pm	10:50pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI

FM844	2:50am	5:40am	2, 6

ARRIVALS

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

CO9598	3:25am	4:00am	5, 6
CO9312	1:20pm	1:55pm	6

GUAM-SAIPAN

CO9316	2:20am	3:10am	1, 2, 3, 4, 7
CO9598	2:20am	4:00am	5, 6 via ROP
CO9596	7:00am	5:00am	Daily
CO9600	10:20am	11:10am	Daily x6
CO9312	12:10pm	1:55pm	6
CO9602	2:00pm	2:50pm	1, 4, 5, 7
CO9604	5:00pm	5:50pm	Daily
CO9606	8:00pm	8:50pm	Daily

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM

CO9597	12:50pm	1:20pm	1, 7

PALAU (ROR)-GUAM

CO954	1:10am	5:30am	3, 5, 7
CO954	1:45am	4:40am	1, 2
CO892	2:35am	5:30am	4, 6

MANILA-PALAU (ROR)

CO892	10:10pm	1:50am+1	3, 5

MANILA-GUAM

CO892	10:10pm	5:30am+1	3, 5 via ROR
CO934	10:55pm	4:30am+1	Daily
PR110	10:00pm	4:00am	1, 3, 5, 6, 7

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

NW76	10:00am	2:35pm	Daily
NW77	6:30pm	1:40am+1	Daily via NGO
NW100	7:50pm	12:30am+1	Daily

NARITA (NRT)-GUAM

NW74	10:00am	2:50pm	Daily
CO962	10:30am	3:00pm	Daily
CO7	3:50pm	8:25pm	Daily
NW84	6:20pm	1:40am+1	Daily
CO964	8:25pm	1:00am+1	Daily
NW82	8:30pm	1:05am+1	4
NW82	8:30pm	1:20am+1	X 4

OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN

OZ120	9:55pm	2:20am+1	3, 5, 6

OSAKA (KIX)-GUAM

NW84	9:05pm	1:40am+1	Daily

NAGOYA (NGO)-SAIPAN

NW77	9:10pm	1:40am	Daily

NAGOYA (NGO)-GUAM

NW24	10:00am	2:35pm	Daily
CO970	11:30am	4:30pm	Daily
CO972	8:25pm	12:55am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:00pm	2:20am+1	4, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

OZ120	7:10pm	2:20am+1	3, 5, 6 via KIX
OZ603	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ603	8:10pm	1:40am+1	excl 7

HONG KONG-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ724	12:30am	5:05am	Daily
OZ722	1:15pm	5:45pm	Daily

MANILA-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ702	12:45pm	5:45pm	Daily
OZ704	11:50pm	4:40am+1	Daily

SHANGHAI-SAIPAN

FM843	7:15pm	1:50am+1	1, 5

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; PR: Philippine Airlines; NW: Northwest; OZ: Asiana
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota			
FRE 100	7:00am	7:30am	Daily
Rota-Saipan			
FRE 100	7:50am	8:20am	Daily
Saipan-Rota			
FRE 200	9:00am	9:30am	Daily
Rota-Guam			
FRE 200	9:50am	10:15am	Daily
Guam-Rota			
FRE 300	4:00pm	4:30pm	Daily
Rota-Saipan			
FRE 300	4:50pm	5:25pm	Daily
Saipan-Rota			
FRE 400	6:00pm	6:30pm	Daily
Rota-Guam			
FRE 400	6:45pm	7:15pm	Daily
Saipan-Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45am	6:55am	Daily
FRE 103	7:30am	7:40am	Daily
FRE 105	8:00am	8:10am	Daily
FRE 107	8:40am	8:50am	Daily
FRE 109*	9:10am	9:20am	Daily
FRE 111*	10:45am	10:55am	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 113	11:40am	11:50am	Daily
FRE 115	1:00pm	1:10pm	Daily
FRE 117	2:30pm	2:40pm	Daily
FRE 119	4:00pm	4:10pm	Daily
FRE 121	4:40pm	4:50pm	Daily
FRE 123 *	5:40pm	5:50pm	Daily
FRE 125 *	6:00pm	6:10pm	Daily
Tinian-Saipan w/ connecting flights to Rota or Guam**			
FRE 102	7:05am	7:15am	Daily
FRE 104	7:50am	8:00am	Daily
FRE 106**	8:20am	8:30am	Daily
FRE 108**	9:00am	9:10am	Daily
FRE 110	10:00am	10:10am	Daily
FRE 112	11:05am	11:15am	Daily
FRE 114	12:00pm	12:10pm	Daily
FRE 116	1:30pm	1:40pm	Daily
FRE 118	2:50pm	3:00pm	Daily
FRE 120**	4:20pm	4:30pm	Daily
FRE 122**	5:00pm	5:10pm	Daily
FRE 124	6:05pm	6:15pm	Daily
FRE 126	6:20pm	6:30pm	Daily

Pacific medevacs undergo Oahu training

By ANGELA HENDERSON
U.S. COAST GUARD

HONOLULU—Critical care specialists who serve on air ambulance or MEDEVAC missions across the Pacific joined the U.S. Coast Guard at Air Station Barbers Point on Oahu, for multi-agency training, May 13, 2009.

The emergency responders participated in a Joint Medical Attendant Transport Team (JMATT) hands-on experience that included a C-130 search plane familiarization and orientation to Coast Guard medical evacuation missions.

Air Station Barbers Point medical department hosted critical care physicians, nurses, respiratory care practitioners and paramedics from the U.S. Air Force, the Army, and Navy, the Hawaiian Disaster Medical Assist Team, the Royal Australian Air Force and the Indian Air Force, in a practice aeromedical evacuation.

"It's very important that we build multiple inter-agency working relationships and solve solutions to the challenges for the safe air transport of critically ill patients," said Lt. Rob Kuhl, the head medical officer at Air Station Barbers Point.

"It also allows for the other branches and agencies to become familiar with the Coast Guard and our capabilities."

This is the first time the Coast Guard has had other agencies at the air station for hands-on training in the C-130 search plane for JMATT. The type and number of patients transported aboard Coast Guard aircraft was discussed, as well as the equipment used and which agencies join the Coast Guard under different circumstances.

The emergency responders also discussed how Coast Guard air crews transport "bariatric" patients (any person over 300 pounds) from neighbor islands to Oahu, a service the Coast Guard performs to augment commercial air ambulances.

"The field aspects I learned today will go a long way in helping us design our critical care teams similar to the JMATT which we can have in not only our Air Force, but our Army and Navy also," said Wing Cmdr. Ajay Handa, a "pulmonologist" th the Indian Air Force.

The JMATT course is a five-day training event taught by the 13th Air Force Surgeon's office which allows for the participants to learn about aeromedical evacuation and improve their equipment proficiency skills. The aeromedical evacuation regulating organization for U.S. Pacific Command is the 13th Air Force's Theater Patient Movement Requirements Center-Pacific.

Current JMATT personnel are located within the Pacific Command Theater, which includes Okinawa, Guam and Hawaii.

"Even though I have been stationed at Hickam Air Force Base for only four months, I can tell in this theater we practice joint-interoperability extremely well," said Lt. Col. Stephen Fecura Jr., the Director of Theater Patient Movement Requirements Center-Pacific.

"In this environment with the amount of water and area we cover it is important that we know each others medical transport capabilities. Coming to the air station, I am impressed by the unique equipment and the Coast Guard's ability to transport critically-ill patients."

Skylar Brown earns Eagle Scout rank

Skylar Brown has earned the rank of Eagle Scout, and a Court of Honor will be held for him on Wednesday, May 27, starting 7:30pm.

To earn the rank of Eagle, a scout is required to attend campouts, earn merit badges, and demonstrate specific skills that are physically and mentally challenging. Less than 5 percent of scouts worldwide attain this goal. Before coming to Saipan, the 18-year-old Brown went on a Klondike campout in the snow where he slept in an igloo.

When asked what was his most difficult, challenging, and rewarding experience, Brown said it was his Eagle Scout Project: refurbishing an aquaculture tank at San Vicente Elementary School, which had been severely damaged by a typhoon.

This required Brown to plan, organize and coordinate many groups of volunteers spending an accumulation of hundreds of service hours. This involved obtaining local merchants for

Brown

supplies, scraping, cleaning, and painting the facility.

SVES intends to use the tank as a hands-on sustainable science lab for the older students to operate. The project took much longer than expected, but was an enriching experience for all and continues to provide a great and useful service to the elementary school.

After earning his Eagle, Brown will continue to be an active scout in Troop 913, by supporting others in their quest for the rank of Eagle. Currently, he serves as Assistant Cub Master for Cub Scout Pack 913.

Brown is the son of Roland and Shauna Brown, and began scouting as Cub Scout at 8 years old where he earned the Arrow of Light, the highest award given to a cub scout. He joined Boy Scouts at 11 years and has been working toward his Eagle advancement for six years. "Once an Eagle, always an Eagle", and all those who are Eagle Scouts are invited to take their place at the "Eagle's Nest."

The public is invited to attend Brown's Eagle Scout Court of Honor, which will be held in the Cultural hall at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (near McDonald's) on Middle Road. ***(PR)***

Matson raises fuel surcharge

Hawaii's largest ocean shipper says it's raising its fuel surcharge from 16.5 percent to 20 percent, effective June 21.

Matson Navigation Co. also announced today that the surcharge for its Guam/Northern Mariana Islands and Micronesia service will climb from 18 percent to 21.5 percent.

The company says the increases stem from rising fuel-related costs. Matson announced in April that it was increasing its fuel surcharge, effective this Sunday.

The two increases follow six consecutive decreases in 2008, with the last taking effective in November.

Dave Hoppes, Matson's senior vice president for ocean services, said if fuel prices don't decline soon, the company will have to make additional increases in its fuel surcharge.

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Santos, ESGR volunteer, gets Lifetime Achievement Award

TUMON, Guam—Retired Col. Joaquin "Danny" S. Santos Jr. was recognized at the 1st Annual ESGR Awards Gala with the organization's coveted Lifetime Achievement Award, presented to one person with significant achievements in promoting ESGR objectives for more than 20 years.

The May 2 gala, which organizers from the Guam/CNMI Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve called a great success, was attended by more than 250 people at Marriott Guam Resort.

"We were very pleased with how many people who came to the gala to celebrate local businesses who employ members of the Guard and Reserve," said ESGR president Paul D. Leon Guerrero. "Although Ret. Col. Santos was unable to be there, it was an honor to see our first Lifetime Achievement Award given to such a worthy individual. Because of people like him, we know our servicemen and women on deployment will always have supporters back at home to help out when they need it."

Santos, a native of Guam, graduated from George Washington High School before earning a bachelor's degree from the University of Dayton and a master's degree from Pepperdine University. He enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps while attending college, and was commissioned as a 2nd lieutenant upon graduation. His career has included staff and command assignments with the Fleet Marine Force in command, control, communications and intelligence.

Upon retirement, Santos returned to Guam and led the transition at GTA from analog to digital technology. He continued his career at Sprint Guam, where he was instrumental in the introduction of domestic rate integration of Guam and the CNMI. He is currently employed as assistant general manager of Consolidated Administration.

Santos is an active member of the Third Marine Division Association (Guam Chapter), the Nino Perdido Parish Council, and serves as vice-chairman of ESGR. He has been awarded the Legion of Merit, a Humanitarian Resolution from the Province of Zambales, Republic of the Philippines; and was inducted into the President's Club, Sprint International. He is married to the former Rosalia Bamba Castro of Agana Heights. They have six children.

ESGR is a Department of Defense agency that seeks to develop and promote a culture in which all American employers support and value the military service of their employees. It does so by recognizing outstanding support, increasing awareness of the law and resolving conflicts through mediation.

Several employers were honored at the organization's 1st Annual Gala with awards including the Seven Seals Award, Volunteer Appreciation, the FC Spirit of Volunteerism Award, Above and Beyond Awards and Pro Patria Awards. ***(PR)***

Artistic, talented artworks from women of all ages needed

The Commonwealth Council for Arts and Culture is pleased to announce that its Annual CNMI Women's Exhibit will be held from June 1 to July 31 at the Arts Gallery, located in Capital Hill next to the Post Office Building.

The exhibit will feature handmade crafts and paintings created by our artists (women) of the CNMI.

The council is encouraging all artists (women) from all ages and culture to take advantage of this special opportunity to experience, participate, promote, and recognize all women who pose artistic talents, interest, and knowledge to take part in the exhibit.

All interested artist (women) are encouraged to submit their artworks by Friday, May 29, 2009, at the arts Council Office from 8am to 4pm. Registration forms are now available and free.

For more information please feel free to contact Parker Yobei or Lucille Ayuyu, arts coordinators at 322-9982/83. ***(PR)***

CELEBRITY READERS CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

DCCA-Arts Council Coordinator Balbina DLC Taisacan reads a story from the book "We Drank Our Tears" in celebrating the National Children's Book two week ago at the Sinapalo Elementary School. Taisacan was one of the Celebrity Readers for the day.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

DCCA-DYS' Trina Gale T. Biton reads to the first graders of Mrs. Sarah Echanis in celebrating the National Children's Book Week from May 11 to 15, 2009, at the Sinapalo Elementary School. The DCCA staff were privileged to become celebrity readers for the day.

Business

Fashion heiress, economist push foreign aid plan

LONDON (AP)—An unlikely duo of a fashion heiress and a Nobel Prize-winning economist is pushing a controversial plan to boost aid to the developing world by giving wealthy donors a greater say in how the money is distributed.

Backed by the head of the United Nations and a bevy of billionaires, supermodels and pop stars, socialite Renu Mehta and economist James Mirrlees say a private-public partnership on foreign aid is the only way to eradicate extreme poverty and hunger, since governments are falling short of U.N. targets.

But the notion sits uneasily with critics already unhappy about the juxtaposition of champagne-fueled fundraisers and the poverty of those they are supposed to benefit. Critics argue it would set a dangerous precedent for the super-rich to determine foreign aid policies.

AP

In this picture taken in London, Tuesday, May 19, 2009, socialite Renu Mehta, left, and Nobel prize-winning economist, James Mirrlees stand for picture.

On its face, the Mehta-Mirrlees plan is simple. They are calling on the Group of Eight industrialized nations, which are meeting in Italy in July, to agree to match private donations with state aid. For every $100 pledged by the private sector, a government would add a matching $100 from existing aid budgets.

The plan seeks to address the fact that governments are falling behind in their commitments to the United Nations to donate 0.7 percent of gross national incomes to meet eight goals, including halving extreme poverty by 2015 from its 1990 level.

In 2007, only five countries—Denmark, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway and Sweden—met the commitment. Collectively, all U.N. members delivered $103.7 billion, just 0.3 percent of gross national income and far short of the goal of $155 billion.

"The U.N. Development Goals are widely recognized as the most comprehensive template to address these issues, but the program is in jeopardy because governments are not meeting their commitments," said Mehta, who launched her Fortune Forum charity in 2006 at a glitzy London dinner with former U.S. President Bill Clinton as the keynote speaker.

Mehta, the daughter of an Indian textile magnate, added: "What we need to do is come up with a new model, find a new way to meet these targets, on the one hand. On the other hand, we need to make sure that the money is deployed to the maximum effectiveness."

With ex-Google exec, AOL seeks another fresh start

NEW YORK (AP)—Shortly before taking over as head of AOL in April, Tim Armstrong ripped out some office doors.

The doors—made of glass and requiring a company key card to pass through—stood in AOL's New York headquarters, separating the offices of executives like former CEO Randy Falco and his No. 2, Ron Grant, from the rank and file.

The doors' departure is emblematic of a shift under way at AOL. Armstrong, 38, was recently hired away from Google Inc. and asked to give the long-suffering Internet unit of Time Warner Inc. yet another shot at salvaging its future after what seems like a lost decade.

If nothing else, Armstrong's arrival has thrilled employees who were unhappy under his predecessors, who were widely considered out of touch and out of place.

But Armstrong's more approachable style won't be enough to restore AOL's luster. AOL's legacy business, its dial-up Internet service, continues to dwindle while its newer online advertising service is not yet picking up all the slack. AOL's operations still make money, but that profit has been falling.

Armstrong's ability to find the right formula could be especially put to the test if Time Warner formally separates itself from AOL by spinning the Internet division off into a stand-alone business, as the company is exploring. That move would finally undo the $147 billion deal in which AOL bought Time Warner in 2001, which became one of the worst corporate combinations in history.

AOL would not make Armstrong available for comment. But current and former employees said his open management style, which he tried to show by taking out the doors, already has marked a stark change from Falco and Grant, who had snippy nicknames at AOL like "Rondy," a combination of their first names.

Falco and Grant joined AOL in late 2006 as part of a surprising management change by Time Warner that ousted AOL's then-CEO, Jonathan Miller. Falco had been president and chief operating officer at NBC Universal Television Group, while Grant came from Time Warner, where he was senior vice president of operations.

Falco was a terrific media executive but he didn't have Internet experience, and Grant was talented but had not managed large teams of people, said Ted Leonsis, an executive who retired from AOL in late 2006.

"You had two very good executives who were perhaps miscast at that time," Leonsis said.

Obama hopes for 'leaner, meaner' GM and Chrysler

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Barack Obama says General Motors Corp. and Chrysler LLC must emerge from their restructuring as "leaner, meaner" companies and that a substantial market awaits them if they make the right decisions.

Obama said in an interview broadcast Saturday on C-SPAN that the beleaguered automakers should aim to have product lines that appeal to consumers—and that means fuel efficient and high-performance vehicles that Americans hunger for.

He defended government intervention in the industry, saying the administration could not let either company simply dissolve.

"Our auto industry is the foundation for economies all across the Midwest," Obama said, "and ultimately, for the country as a whole. And had we allowed GM or Chrysler simply to liquidate that would have been a huge anti-stimulus on the economy as a whole, and could have dragged us even deeper into recession or even depression."

The president said that he believes GM ultimately "is going to be a strong company and we are going to be pulling out as soon as the economy recovers and they've completed their restructuring."

Nevertheless, several members of Congress appealed directly to the administration Friday to slow down the restructuring, saying they were worried about shuttered car dealerships, job losses and the big unknown of a GM bankruptcy. They said that a pending June 1 deadline for a GM bankruptcy created more uncertainty for the industry and could lead to a rash of additional job losses and dealership closings.

GM borrowed an additional $4 billion from the government Friday on top of $15.4 billion it previously received. The administration has demanded that the restructuring include cutting labor costs, reducing debt, shedding dealerships and brands, and closing excess factories.

"Keep in mind what's happened in the auto industry," Obama said. "Right now, we're seeing—we're projecting that maybe this year the auto industry as a whole sells 10 million cars in the United States. Well, replacement numbers for the auto industry, you know, that the number of cars to replace cars on the road is closer to 14, 15, 16 million. And what that means is when the economy recovers and consumers say, you know the old clunker has finally given out. I need to get a new car."

US Energy Sec: World wants stable oil prices

ROME (AP)—U.S. Energy Secretary Steven Chu said Saturday that the world wants oil prices to remain stable, warning that a new spike could harm the economic recovery.

Speaking in Rome where he is attending an energy meeting of the Group of Eight industrialized countries opening Sunday, Chu said that both the oil producing and the oil consuming countries have an interest in keeping energy prices stable.

"Another spike in oil certainly will have very big consequences" on the world's economy, he said at a joint news conference with Italian Industry Minister Claudio Scajola.

Last year, prices for crude oil and other energy products reached record highs, fell sharply when the global financial slowdown hit and then rose again at the first signs of economic improvement.

Oil supplies have been in flux recently. OPEC countries have boosted exports by an estimated 200,000 barrels a day in the four weeks to June 6.

Also on Saturday Chu signed a bilateral agreement with Italy to cooperate on carbon capture and sequestration—a process to store greenhouse gas carbon dioxide underground.

"The issue of carbon capture and sequestration are issues that the world has not solved," Chu said. "We need to capture the carbon ... and sequestrate (emissions) safely and we have to do this in an economically viable way."

The cooperation deal includes common projects, development of new technologies and exchange of experts and researchers. It also provides cooperation on developing green coal technologies.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Magna, Sberbank team up in Opel bid

BERLIN (AP)—Canadian auto parts maker Magna International Inc. says it is joining forces with Russia's biggest lender, Sberbank, in a bid to take a majority stake in General Motors Corp.'s Opel unit. In a statement released late Friday, Aurora, Ontario-based Magna for the first time offered details of its bid, one of three from companies interested in Opel. Magna and Sberbank propose to invest a total of euro700 million ($977 million) in Opel, based in Ruesselsheim, Germany. An unspecified portion of that would be guaranteed by the German government, the statement said. A possible deal would leave Magna with 20 percent of Opel and state-controlled Sberbank with 35 percent, while parent GM would retain 35 percent and 10 percent would go to Opel employees, it added.

GOP: Alternative energy alone won't meet US needs

WASHINGTON (AP)—A GOP senator from the nation's leading coal-producing state contends Democrats will increase energy costs and make the U.S. more dependent on foreign oil if they focus solely on alternative energy. In the party's weekly radio and Internet address Saturday, Sen. John Barrasso, R-Wyo., said Republicans support a more comprehensive energy plan that would increase funding for energy research, develop U.S. oil and gas resources and promote clean coal and nuclear power. "Democrats have focused solely on what they call green jobs. Those are jobs from alternative energy. I support green jobs, but why discriminate?" Barrasso said. "American energy means American jobs, which is why I support red-white-and-blue jobs."

A town's struggle to survive in hard times

The auto plants and steel mills, once the lifeblood of Warren, are ghosts of their former selves. Plants lie idle, shifts have been cut, and the huge parking lot outside the Lordstown General Motors factory is nearly empty. The Golden Gate restaurant and Mary M's, fixtures for years, are shuttered. Houses are boarded up. Businesses have given up on downtown. There is a saying among old-timers in this gritty river town: What recession? We've been stuck in one for 30 years. Yet even stubborn Warren, a town with a dwindling population of about 43,000 in northeast Ohio, is being tested like never before. And folks talk of a hopelessness, a weariness of spirit that is pervading every aspect of life. "It's like lives are being stripped away whole," says Pam Bennett, 55, a retired high school secretary who volunteers at the Warren Family Mission, where hundreds of people flock every week for food and clothes and shelter. Many are families with small children. Many have lost their jobs. And many are coming in for the first time. ***(AP)***

Nation

Memorial Day roll call salutes 148,000 veterans

RIVERSIDE, Calif. (AP)—Abts, Richard. Adamski, Walter. Ahlman, Enoch. The names are whisked away by the hot, gusting wind as soon as they are spoken, forgotten in the stream of the next name and the next name and the next name. Fuller, Addison. Fuller, Mary. Furlong, John. The story of America could be told through these names, tales of bravery and hesitation, of dreams achieved or deferred and of battles won and lost.

Taken alone, they are just words, identities stripped of place and time, stripped of rank and deeds and meaning.

But they are not taken alone. They are taken together—148,000 names, representing the entire veteran population of Riverside National Cemetery, a roll call of the dead read aloud over 10 days by more than 300 volunteers.

They read in pairs, rotating through 15-minute shifts in the beating sun, in the chilly desert night and in the predawn hours thick with mosquitoes.

Some time on Memorial Day, they will read the last name on the 2,465th page.

Some read for their country.

Others read for a father lost in battle or a beloved son cut down in his prime.

And one man reads for no one in particular—except, maybe, for himself.

■ ■ ■

Richard Blackaby was just 18 and fresh out of high school in 1966 when he was drafted for Vietnam. His father had served as a Seabee in the U.S. Navy during World War II and Blackaby was desperate to follow in his path.

But the Army said no: Blackaby had epilepsy and asthma and was unfit for service.

Twelve years later, Blackaby—now married with three children—reapplied to the Army and was accepted to the 4th Infantry Division as a forward observer.

AP

Joey Martin of Boy Scout Troop 16 places flags on the graves of veterans at West Lawn Cemetery Saturday, May 23, 2009 in Canton, Ohio.

But Vietnam was over and the eager recruit spent the next six years waiting for a war that never came. When he was honorably discharged in 1984, he was a sergeant but had never experienced combat, had never called in a real air strike or fired at a real target.

Nearly 25 years later, Blackaby's missed opportunity weighs on him as he patrols his self-selected battleground: Riverside, the nation's busiest national cemetery. While others gave their lives, Blackaby gives his time—and a lot of it, nearly 30 hours a week.

Uncertain NASA gets familiar former astronaut boss

HOUSTON (AP)—The nation's turbulent space program will be run by one of its own, a calming well-liked former space shuttle commander.

President Barack Obama on Saturday chose retired astronaut Gen. Charles Bolden to lead NASA. He also named former NASA associate administrator Lori Garver as the agency's No. 2. If confirmed, Bolden, who has flown in space four times and was an assistant deputy administrator at one point, would be the agency's first black administrator.

Bolden would also be only the second astronaut to run NASA in its 50-year history. Adm. Richard Truly was the first. In 2002, then-President George W. Bush unsuccessfully tried to appoint Bolden as the space agency's deputy administrator. The Pentagon said it needed to keep Bolden, who was a Marine general at the time and a pilot who flew more than 100 sorties in Vietnam.

"Charlie knows NASA and the people know Charlie; there's a level of comfort," especially given the uncertainty the space agency faces, said retired astronaut Steve Hawley, who flew twice in space with Bolden.

Bolden likely will bring "more balance" to NASA, increasing spending on aeronautics and environment missions, working more with other nations in space, and emphasizing education, which the president often talks about when it comes to space, said former Johnson Space Center Director George Abbey, a longtime friend.

"He's a real leader," Abbey said Saturday. "NASA has been looking for a leader like this that they could have confidence in."

Bolden's appointment came during the tail end of the space shuttle Atlantis' mission to repair the Hubble Space Telescope one final time. He was the pilot on the flight that sent Hubble into orbit in 1990.

Bolden, 62, would inherit a NASA that doesn't look much like the still-somewhat-fresh-from-the-moon agency he joined as an astronaut in 1980. NASA now "is faced with a lot of uncertainty," Abbey said.

Obama sees court pick as smart with common touch

WASHINGTON (AP)—On the verge of choosing his first Supreme Court nominee, President Barack Obama has already provided a profile of the person he is likely to pick: an intellectual heavyweight with a "common touch," someone whose brand of justice means seeing life from the perspective of the powerless.

Obama is expected to announce his nominee this week, as early as Tuesday. He has interviewed at least two finalists for the position, according to an official familiar with Obama's thinking who spoke on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the matter. One of those interviewed is federal appeals court judge Diane Wood, officials said last week.

Obama's words, his young presidency and his own life experience reveal what the nation should expect in his choice—and help explain how the president is making a decision that will endure long after he leaves office.

"You have to have not only the intellect to be able to effectively apply the law to cases before you," Obama said in an interview carried Saturday on C-SPAN television. "But you have to be able to stand in somebody else's shoes and see through their eyes and get a sense of how the law might work or not work in practical day-to-day living."

That quality—Obama calls it empathy—is a huge factor in picking a successor to retiring Justice David Souter. Among the others Obama is weighing: judicial philosophy, intellectual sway, gender, ethnicity, age and the politics of Senate confirmation.

He is expected to choose a woman, and perhaps someone who is Hispanic, but insists he will not be "weighed down" by demographics.

Ultimately, it may come down to an intangible—how well the nominee resonates with Obama. A president's tenure will last at most eight years, but his choice of a Supreme Court nominee could affect the course of the nation for a generation, and his personal legacy for even longer.

Killings shattered dreams of rural Iraqi family

PADUCAH, Ky. (AP)—The beautiful, dark-haired girl in the photograph stands near a wall in pre-invasion Iraq. What is unseen and now lost, her family says, is her dream of moving to the big city and getting married.

"Abeer was a strong woman," said her aunt, Ameena Hamza Rashid al-Janabi. "She was very proud to be young."

Relatives of the girl, Abeer Qassim al-Janabi, and prosecutors detailed the teen's hopes and life during the civilian trial of former Pfc. Steven Dale Green, 24, in western Kentucky. They showed pictures of the family at home, and relatives recounted their aspirations for a better life.

Green, of Midland, Texas, was convicted of multiple counts, including conspiracy and murder in the March 2006 killings of 14-year-old Abeer and her father, mother and 6-year-old sister near Mahmoudiya, Iraq, about 20 miles south of Baghdad. But jurors couldn't reach a decision Thursday on an appropriate punishment for Green, resulting in the ex-soldier receiving a life sentence rather than the death penalty.

Al-Janabi family members testified at the guilt and sentencing phases of Green's trial, telling jurors through an interpreter about the al-Janabi family—Kassem, Fakhriya, Abeer, and Hadeel, who were killed in the attack, and two boys, Mohammed and Ahmed, who weren't home during the slayings.

The family was close and dreamed of owning a home, sending the four children to school and living in peace, said a cousin, Abu Farras.

Kassem al-Janabi, a thin man whom jurors saw in a photo from his wedding day wearing a slightly too-large suit, was so fond of his sister Ameena's children he named his own girls after them. He called the oldest Abeer, which means "fragrance of flowers," and the younger girl Hadeel, which means "sound of the water," Ameena said.

Kassem al-Janabi doted on his family when he wasn't working as a guard in an orchard of date and palm trees, Farras said. His oldest son, 15-year-old Mohammed, recalled Kassem taking the two boys on car rides to the market and helping with homework.

"He had a dream he would live and eat like all the other people," Farras said. "He had a dream he would have a house one day. He had a dream the kids would finish college."

ACROSS THE NATION

NYPD forensic investigator stabbed to death in bed

NEW YORK (AP)—Michelle Lee's career was solving crimes. Working as a forensic investigator for the New York Police Department, she was training to do the type of "CSI" work made famous on television. But the 24-year-old became a victim of a crime herself, stabbed to death in her bed, her naked body found in a pool of blood. Using the same investigative techniques Lee was learning, authorities on Friday arrested her ex-lover Gary McGurk in the case, charging him with second-degree murder. McGurk pleaded not guilty and was being held without bail. His attorney, Joseph Corozzo said his client was innocent. "This is a gruesome crime, but my client is not responsible for it," he said. "We look forward to seeing the purported evidence in this case."

Maine-bound truck burns wood chips

LEWISTON, Maine (AP)—A pickup truck that was modified in Alabama to burn wood chips for fuel was headed to Maine with its new owners behind the wheel of the bright green vehicle they call "Termite." Auburn, Maine, businessman Ford Reiche and his son George left Birmingham, Ala., last Tuesday in the 1991 Dodge Dakota pickup. A device in the bed of the truck roasts the chips to form a wood gas, which is cooled, filtered and fed into the engine. The truck has a gasoline-powered backup system, according to Reiche's blog, http://blog.safehandling.com . It was modified to be green-powered by farmer-inventor Wayne Keith, who has driven 15,000 miles in the vehicle, including a trip from Alabama to California and back last year. He's now working on a new prototype. When burning chips, the truck burns one pound of wood for each mile driven, or about 5,000 miles per cord.

Critics blast Milwaukee cops over serial killings

MILWAUKEE (AP)—Within a 3-square-mile area of Milwaukee's north side an unknown man strangled six women police say were prostitutes between 1986 and 2007. But it wasn't until this past week that the city's top cop said recent DNA tests had linked the killings. Some people in the community, including the women's' families, wonder why it took police so long to discover the DNA link, and whether some officers' biases against the victims' lifestyles and race kept them from focusing their attention on the crimes. "Crack whores," is how some officers in past decades referred to prostitutes, said LaVerne McCoy, who retired as a sergeant in January after 25 years in the Milwaukee Police Department.

Asia

Ex-S. Korean leader Roh commits suicide

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—Former President Roh Moo-hyun, embroiled in a penetrating corruption investigation, leaped to his death—a shocking end for a man whose rags-to-riches rise took him from rural poverty to Seoul's presidential Blue House. He was 62.

Roh, a self-taught lawyer who never attended college and didn't have the elite background typical of Seoul politicians, had prided himself on being a "clean" leader immune to South Korea's traditional web of corruption.

Allegations that Roh, president from 2003-08, accepted $6 million in bribes from a businessman while in office weighed heavily on the ex-leader, who appeared emotionally wrought last month as he prepared to face prosecutors.

Roh hurled himself off a 100 foot (30 meter) high cliff early Saturday while hiking, trailed by a security guard, near his home in Bongha, police in the nearby southern port city of Busan said. Life had become unbearable and "too many people are suffering because of me," Roh wrote in a note found on his computer, police said.

"What's left for me for the rest of my life is just to be a burden to others," his note said. "Don't be too sad. Aren't life and death both part of nature? Don't feel sorry. Don't blame anybody. It's destiny." He asked to be cremated, a small gravestone erected near his home.

Roh's suicide stunned the nation. At train stations and shopping malls across the country, South Koreans were glued to TV monitors. Many snapped up special newspaper editions about Roh. Tens of thousands flooded his Web site, many posting condolences.

"I was utterly shocked," said Chun Soon-im, 63, of Seoul. "They say 'hate the sin but not the sinner,' and that's how I feel. The investigation must continue and we must get to the truth, but I cannot help feeling sorry for the man and those left behind."

Mourners wailed as Roh's coffin, draped in red, returned to Bongha from a Busan hospital. His two children, sobbing, followed the casket to the community center near his birthplace of Gimhae, some 280 miles (450 kilometers) from Seoul. About 13,000 people had paid their respects at a mourning site at the village's community center, police said.

In Seoul, more than 2,500 people held a somber candlelight memorial service Saturday night near the capital's Deoksu Palace, many bowing, burning incense and leaving white chrysanthemums, a traditional Korean symbol of grief.

AP

South Koreans mourn in front of a portrait of former President Roh Moo-hyun during a funeral service for Roh near the Roh's house in Gimhae, South Korea, Sunday, May 24, 2009.

Scorched earth, craters mark Sri Lanka's war zone

NORTHEAST COAST, Sri Lanka (AP)—Sri Lanka's former war zone is a wasteland, its earth scorched and pocked by craters. Cars and trucks lie overturned near bunkers beside clusters of battered tents.

The government has denied firing heavy weapons into what had been a battlefield densely populated with civilians. But the helicopter tour the military gave U.N. Secretary General Ban Ki-moon and a group of journalists Saturday revealed widespread devastation.

Civilians who escaped the zone said they came under intense shelling from both the rebels and the government.

"We ran for our lives from the shelling in the north," said one man who gave his name as Krishnathurai. "It was coming from both sides, the Tamil Tigers and the military, and we were stuck in the middle."

The sandy coastal strip where the final battles of the quarter-century civil war were fought was dotted with patches of charred earth and deep recessions. Dark craters were visible amid the grayish earth along the coast.

One area was thick with endless rows of tents, many of them knocked down and damaged. Abandoned vehicles were overturned, some reduced to burnt skeletons. Some huts with thatch roofs were destroyed, others had no roofs.

In one area near the tents, bunkers appeared to have been constructed of sandbags and barrels.

Along a nearby beach lay a large boat with the rebels' roaring tiger emblem.

After touring the area, Ban said the trapped civilians must have undergone "most inhumane suffering."

The government declared victory over the rebels Monday in the civil war that began in 1983.

In the final weeks, with the rebels boxed into a tiny coastal strip and tens of thousands of civilians trapped inside the battlefield, the government said it would no longer fire heavy weapons.

But government doctors in the area—as well as human rights groups and foreign leaders—said intense shelling continued, killing hundreds of civilians. The U.N. Human Rights Council has planned a special session on Sri Lanka on Monday in Geneva amid international calls for a war crimes investigation into the military's conduct.

Passer-by pushes suicide jumper in south China

BEIJING (AP)—Chen Fuchao, a man heavily in debt, had been contemplating suicide on a bridge in southern China for hours when a passer-by came up, shook his hand—and pushed him off the ledge.

Chen fell 26 feet (8 meters) onto a partially inflated emergency air cushion laid out by authorities and survived, suffering spine and elbow injuries, the official Xinhua News Agency said Saturday.

The passer-by, 66-year-old Lai Jiansheng, had been fed up with what he called Chen's "selfish activity," Xinhua said. Traffic around the Haizhu bridge in the city of Guangzhou had been backed up for five hours and police had cordoned off the area.

"I pushed him off because jumpers like Chen are very selfish. Their action violates a lot of public interest," Lai was quoted as saying by Xinhua. "They do not really dare to kill themselves. Instead, they just want to raise the relevant government authorities' attention to their appeals."

Xinhua said Lai was "taken away by police" but did not elaborate.

A police officer who answered the telephone Saturday at a station close to the bridge confirmed the incident and said it was under investigation. He refused to give any other details and hung up.

According to Xinhua, Chen wanted to kill himself because he had accrued 2 million yuan ($290,000) in debt from a failed construction project.

On Thursday, he made his way to the Haizhu bridge, where 11 other people have tried to take their lives since April.

Lai volunteered to talk Chen down but was turned away by police, Xinhua said. Lai then broke through the cordon, climbed to where Chen sat, greeted him with a handshake, then pushed.

Search for homes for 'Slumdog' children picks up

MUMBAI, India (AP)—The search for new homes for two impoverished child stars from the hit movie "Slumdog Millionaire" has intensified, as one child fell sick days after city authorities demolished the shanty where she lived, family members said.

Nine-year-old Rubina Ali came down with a fever Friday and spent a few hours in a local hospital, they said.

"I'm fine now, but I feel tired," Rubina said Saturday as she lay in bed, resting at her uncle's house.

Rubina's block was razed Wednesday to make way for a planned pedestrian overpass at a commuter train station in Mumbai. Last week, co-star Azharuddin Mohammed Ismail's home was demolished, part of a pre-monsoon slum clearance drive.

Rubina and her parents have been staying with relatives. Azhar, 10, and his family have tied tarpaulins and blankets around a thin wood frame for shelter in the Garib Nagar—"city of the poor"—slum where both families live.

After the runaway success of their film, "Slumdog" director Danny Boyle and producer Christian Colson set up the Jai Ho trust to ensure the children receive proper homes, a decent education and a nest egg when they finish high school. They have also donated $747,500 to a charity to help slum children in Mumbai.

The filmmakers have agreed to raise the amount of money they will spend on new apartments for each family from $30,000 to $50,000, a Jai Ho trustee and Rubina's father, Rafiq Qureshi, both told The Associated Press on Saturday.

Family members had worried that $30,000 would not be enough to secure decent housing in Mumbai's pricey real estate market.

In addition, the filmmakers have agreed to give each family a stipend of $130 a month and a lump sum of $3,000 a year to support the children while they are in school, the trustee and Qureshi said.

That is substantially more than any of their neighbors in Garib Nagar make, where many bring home $4 a day as auto rickshaw drivers and maids.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Insurgency takes toll on both Buddhists, Muslims

KO TO, Thailand (AP)—The young Muslim man says he watched helplessly as soldiers broke his father's bones and punctured his lungs with vicious kicks. After seven hours of relentless torture, the Muslim religious leader died cradled in his lap. In a nearby village, a 7-year-old Buddhist girl still dials her father's mobile telephone number every evening. Then she readies his bed. But her father is never coming home. He and his brother were riddled with bullets and their bodies set afire as they motorcycled to a computer class. A vicious Muslim insurgency in Thailand's deep south has spared few. On the roll call of 3,400 dead are monks and teachers, shopkeepers and rubber tappers, officials and innocents from every background.

Pakistani troops take on Taliban in main Swat town

ISLAMABAD (AP)—Pakistani security forces fought street battles with Taliban militants in the Swat Valley's main urban center Saturday, a critical phase in the effort to wrest the northwest region near Afghanistan out of insurgent hands. Army spokesman Maj. Gen. Athar Abbas warned that the operation in Mingora town could be "painfully slow," noting some 10,000 to 20,000 civilians are still trapped there. The fight also could prove a major test for a military more geared toward conventional warfare on plains than bloody urban battles. The military operation in Swat and surrounding districts has strong support from Washington, which wants Pakistan to root out insurgents who use its territory to plan attacks on U.S. troops in Afghanistan. For now, it appears to have broad public support in Pakistan as well.

Report: Sichuan quake sites to open to tourists

BEIJING (AP)—Sections of streets, schools and bridges destroyed during last year's massive earthquake in southwestern China will soon be open to tourists, state media said Saturday. Ruins from the May 12 quake centered in Sichuan province that left almost 90,000 people dead or missing have become a draw for visitors, especially during national holidays, the Xinhua News Agency reported. "There is a huge tourism market in the ruins," Wu Mian, deputy director of the Sichuan provincial tourism department, was quoted as saying. "We cannot block the tourists out," he said. "We also hope the tourists watch their behavior and not hurt the quake survivors' feelings."

World

Green Zone killing heightens security fears

BAGHDAD (AP)—An American was found dead in Baghdad's fortified Green Zone, the U.S. military said Saturday, the apparent victim of an unprecedented slaying that occurred at a time when blast walls are coming down and Iraqi forces are assuming greater control.

Another American, believed to be a civilian contractor, was killed Friday night when a rocket struck the Green Zone near the U.S. Embassy, the military said. It was believed to be the first fatal rocket attack there this year.

Those deaths have raised concerns about security before the June 30 deadline for all U.S. combat troops to pull out of Baghdad and other cities. At least 66 people were killed nationwide in a two-day string of bombings this week.

Iraq assumed control of the Green Zone zone on Jan. 1 under a U.S.-Iraqi security agreement, taking primary responsibility from the Americans for searching vehicles and checking identity papers as entry checkpoints.

The Iraqis have begun removing some of the protective blast falls around the Green Zone—part of a campaign to restore a sense of normalcy as violence in the city has waned.

The U.S. military gave few details of the slaying, saying only that an American was found dead Friday in his car and that Army criminal investigators were handling the case. No further details were released.

An Iraqi security official said the victim had been stabbed in his chest and his throat had been slit. He said the body was found lying near a water tank by drivers who had gone there to fill water delivery trucks Friday morning.

The official spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not supposed to release information.

The victim was identified by his brother as Jim Kitterman, 60, of Houston, Texas, who runs a small construction company based in the Green Zone and had worked in Iraq for about six years.

Although Americans and others have been killed in rocket or mortar attacks in the Green Zone, Kitterman was believed to be the first American ever assassinated there since the protected area was established after the city fell to U.S. forces in April 2003.

The victim's brother, Cliff Kitterman, told The Associated Press that U.S. authorities notified him about his brother's death but he refused to give details of what he had been told.

AP

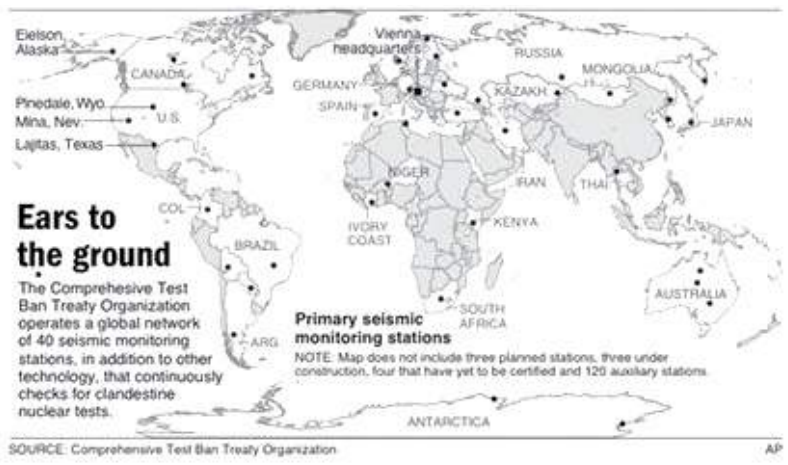
In this image taken on Tuesday, May 12, 2009, SSgt. Jason McNeil, of Billings, Montana, with Charlie Company, 1-18 Combined Arms Battalion, 2d Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, stands guard during a routine patrol near the holy Shiite shrine of Imam Kazim, seen in the back, in Baghdad.

Obama treaty push hinges on global 'listening' net

VIENNA (AP)—In high-rise offices along the Danube, scientists riveted to computer screens "listen" to sounds no one can hear, "feel" every rumble in the Earth, "sniff" global skies for exotic gases—on alert for signs of a newborn atomic bomb.

Governments over the past decade have quietly built up a $1 billion International Monitoring System to enforce the treaty banning nuclear weapons tests. At more than 200 stations around the world, from deep in the Pacific to high in the Bavarian Alps, they have deployed advanced technologies to detect secret explosions. And they have waited.

Since 1999, when a Republican-led U.S. Senate rejected it, the treaty has languished in a diplomatic limbo, and this unequaled—and growing—system of global sensors has remained in long-running rehearsal.



SOURCE: Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty Organization AP

Fighting in Mogadishu kills 3, wounds about 30

MOGADISHU, Somalia (AP)—Heavy shelling and gunfire in Mogadishu killed three people and wounded about 30 Saturday in the battle between government and rebel forces for Somalia's capital, witnesses said.

It was the second day of an offensive by the U.N.-backed government trying to regain neighborhoods won by the Islamic insurgents in recent weeks.

Resident Abdul Khadir Hassan Hussein said two men and a women were killed in Saturday's bombardment in southern areas of Mogadishu. Ali Muse, a coordinator with African Life-line and Nation Link Ambulance service, said around 30 people were wounded by the shelling and six others by gunfire.

The presidential palace also was hit by two mortars, said presidential guard Mohamed Abdi Ali, but no one was injured there.

A human rights group said 53 people were killed in the capital in on Friday and 181 wounded.

Somali insurgents said earlier Saturday that despite the battle the previous day, they continued to hold their positions. Residents reported that the government operation had failed to dislodge the Islamists.

But Defense Minister Mohamed Abdi Gandi said the government offensive had been a success. When asked to elaborate, given that residents reported government troops had retreated to the areas they held before the push, he declined to comment.

A lull in the fighting was reported earlier Saturday, but resident Omar Abdukahi said shelling began later when reinforcements arrived for the insurgents.

The center of the city had been heavily shelled Friday. Both sides fired mortars, rocket-propelled grenades and truck-mounted anti-aircraft missiles into residential areas.

The Elman Human Rights Organization compiled Friday's casualty figures from interviews with health officials, morgues and witnesses.

Since the renewal of fighting two weeks ago, the Islamic insurgents had captured several strategic locations in Mogadishu. Despite successes, they failed to gain control of key installations, including the airport and presidential palace, which are guarded by African Union peacekeepers.

Koehler re-elected as German president

BERLIN (AP)—German President Horst Koehler won a second five-year term Saturday, a victory that gave a symbolic boost to Chancellor Angela Merkel's hopes of forming a center-right government after a national election this September.

Koehler, a former International Monetary Fund head and a member of Merkel's conservative Christian Democrats, secured the required majority by a single vote in the first round of voting by a special parliamentary assembly.

That was enough to see off a challenge from center-left Social Democrat Gesine Schwan, who was bidding to become Germany's first female president—a largely ceremonial job.

Merkel said she was "very glad" about Koehler's swift victory. "We think he is the president Germany needs in this situation," she added.

The popular 66 year old won 613 votes in the 1,224-member parliamentary assembly, made up of lower-house lawmakers and delegates nominated by state legislatures. Schwan, who had hoped to force further rounds of voting, won 503.

WORLD BRIEFS

Iran's president faces campaign trail hurdles

TEHRAN, Iran (AP)—Moments after Mahmoud Ahmadinejad's underdog victory four years ago, the streets in scruffy south Tehran were in full celebration for their native son. Shops offered free sweets and tea. Women shouted prayers from open windows. The khaki-shirted basiji—the street vigilantes of the Islamic Revolution—chanted slogans and thanked God that a true ideological ally was now president. The views toward him now are much more nuanced, conflicted and increasingly critical over issues that range from Iran's gasping economy to his combative style with the West. How he responds could largely set the tone for the June 12 vote between Ahmadinejad and three challengers: a fellow hard-liner who led the powerful Revolutionary Guard, and two perceived reformers.

Venezuela rejects concerns from UN, OAS on media

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)—A top diplomat on Saturday defended Venezuela's investigation into a leading anti-government television station, rebuffing the concerns of U.N. and OAS officials that President Hugo Chavez's government is threatening free speech. Venezuela's ambassador to the Organization of American States, Roy Chaderton, accused the Globovision TV network of "media terrorism" and said that foreign observers passing judgment on Venezuela are beholden "to the interests of the private media." Regulators are investigating Globovision for allegedly inciting "panic and anxiety" in its coverage of a minor earthquake on May 4. The station couldn't reach the head of Venezuela's seismological agency for comment after the quake, and criticized the government for its slow response.

Prominent Egyptian dissident burned in attack

CAIRO (AP)—A prominent Egyptian dissident said Saturday he was attacked by an assailant on a motorcycle who ignited a flammable substance in his face, leaving his head burned. Ayman Nour, one of the few liberal campaigners for democracy in Egypt, spent nearly four years in prison after challenging the country's longtime president, Hosni Mubarak, in a 2005 election. He said after his release in February he would continue his campaign for democracy. Nour accused elements within Mubarak's ruling party of being behind the attack on him, which occurred Friday night. "This (attack) is wrong. This is the wrong message, for the wrong reason at the wrong time," he said.

Health & Fitness

Volunteers tested in a 50-year-long study provide invaluable data on aging process

By LORI ARATANI
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THE WASHINGTON POST
Volunteers tested in a 50-year-long study provide invaluable data on the aging process. A volunteer walks a hallway wearing instruments that measure oxygen consumption.

Every year hundreds of people travel to Baltimore for an unusual purpose. They are not there to tour the city's aquarium or sample its fabled blue crabs. They are not in search of fame or money. Other than free lodging, they receive nothing in exchange for their visit, which entails a certain amount of discomfort.

No, these folks, some of whom have made this journey for decades, believe the trip is worth their time and expense because how they live—calculated according to everything from the strength of their grip to how many apples they consume in a month—may offer clues to how the rest of us might live better, longer, healthier lives.

These individuals—homemakers, retirees, doctors and myriad others—are participants in the Baltimore Longitudinal Study of Aging (BLSA), the country's longest-running study of aging.

Since 1958, a total of more than 1,400 volunteers have agreed to regularly undergo in-depth physicals and memory and other screenings conducted by the study's physicians. The resulting data span more than half a century and are a gold mine for researchers interested in the aging process.

Because of the BLSA, scientists know that signs indicating that a person could be at risk for dementia and other cognitive diseases may appear 20 years before symptoms emerge. Findings that today are common knowledge (that exercise can help reduce high blood pressure, for one) can be traced back to BLSA's annual physicals and the data analysis done by the study's scientists.

Think of it as a vast historical record.

The BLSA is one of many projects being done by the National Institute on Aging, but the study itself is a rarity. Few institutions will undertake such an extensive venture, largely because the commitment required from individuals is enormous, said the study's director, Luigi Ferrucci.

It's not just researchers who toil for years sifting through mountains of data. BLSA participants also are devoted to helping researchers fulfill the study's goals: One person has been enrolled for 47 years. The oldest participant is 102 and has made the required pilgrimage to Baltimore regularly for 38 years.

"Participants really, really love the study," said Ferrucci, a genial, gray-haired physician who first learned about the BLSA as a student in his native Italy. "They feel they are making a contribution to science, and they feel like aging is such an important and under-studied issue, anything they can do to help, they want to do." Participants come from as far as Norway. Some even donate their bodies to the BLSA autopsy study.

"It's a chance to make a unique contribution to research on aging," said Richard Sprott of Potomac, Md., one of the participants, "since this is the only research project of its kind in the world."

As understanding of aging has changed, so have elements of the study. Researchers recently incorporated a new component into their research, Insights Into the Determinants of Exceptional Aging and Longevity study (IDEAL), an effort to uncover the secrets of those who age exceptionally well: Think 80 year olds who ski and jog or 90 year olds whose hearing and memory put a 30 year old to shame. Ferrucci estimates only about 0.5 percent of the population has such abilities.

The elevator doors slide open to reveal a tastefully decorated lobby. Soft music plays in the background. A huge bank of windows offers a soothing view of the Patapsco River. A smiling receptionist greets visitors warmly. For three days, the fifth floor of Harbor Hospital in Baltimore will serve as home base for the many participants who come for their physicals. Most will stay here at the hospital in comfortable but not particularly plush rooms. Proximity is important because researchers want them to be available for the battery of tests they'll undergo over the next 48 to 72 hours.

Down the hall is a small kitchen area stocked with fruit and pretzels. The atmosphere is soothing. The magazines plentiful. The staff friendly.

There is homework. Along with athletic shoes and casual clothing, participants are asked to bring with them a food diary that details everything they ate in the previous three days. Yes, some people have been know to temporarily clean up their diet — a tendency that is noted in the 20-minute introductory video sent to people before they arrive.

"Please report what you actually eat, not what you think you SHOULD be eating," it says.

This is no vacation. During their stay, participants will have a physical that goes well beyond sticking their tongues out and saying "ahhhhh." They rarely will sit for more than 30 minutes before they are whisked away for another exam or stuck with another needle. Sprott, now in his 12th year in the study, confirms that the pace can be brutal.

Researchers take routine measures (temperature, blood pressure and weight), but participants also undergo more sophisticated tests. Echocardiograms help researchers examine hearts, and spirometry tests measure lung function. In addition to collecting blood and urine, researchers might also take samples of the participants' breath.

Even simple tests can provide valuable insight. Researchers will evaluate a participant's grip strength, which previous BLSA research has shown can predict whether someone might be at higher risk of complications after surgery or more likely to die prematurely.

A select few will undergo a procedure called cytapheresis, in which white blood cells are extracted from blood in a search for clues to how age might influence a person's immune system. In another test, participants' movements are tracked by sensors similar those used in the making of computer-animated movies such as "Toy Story."

The researchers do not offer treatment. They may, however, share information gleaned from the tests with participants, who can then discuss the findings with their regular physicians, Ferrucci said.

The researchers also evaluate changes in each person's memory and verbal ability, using memory tests and brain scans. Should a group of participants develop dementia, researchers can look back at those individuals' test results for commonalities.

So, what it is like to be a test subject?

Fascinating but not always fun, according to Sprott.

Most people mark another year with an extra candle on their birthday cake. But Sprott, 68, is reminded of his age when he slips up on one of the routine memory tests or when he is slightly more winded after a treadmill session he may have sailed through years earlier.

"It's a three-day validation that your body is going to hell," Sprott said with a chuckle. "And it reminds me every once in a while that I need to lose a little weight."

It's not the poking and prodding, the needles and the skin electrodes that Sprott dislikes.

"The physical stuff doesn't bother (me)," he said. "We're all deteriorating."

Rather, it's the tests of memory.

"We hate the cognitive stuff," he said, going on to describe the test that he and his wife, who is also a participant, dread.

"The tester reads you a set of shopping lists, maybe 16 items," he recalled. "You have to reply with as many as you can remember. The first time you take this test, you discover a simple strategy for remembering: You sort the items into categories. But even though you take the same test every two years and you know the strategies, you get worse."

Sprott is well-versed in the science of aging: For more than a decade, he directed the National Institute on Aging's study on the biology of aging. Since 1998, he has been executive director of the Bethesda, Md.-based Ellison Medical Foundation, which funds basic biological and biomedical research on aging.

"There is an incredible amount of misinformation out in the field," he said, adding that few programs can match the longevity of the BLSA or the breadth of its data.

"My grandkids will benefit from this research," he added.

In addition to his wife, Sprott's 42-year-old daughter is also a BLSA participant.

The work done by BLSA scientists (more than 800 scientific papers) runs the gamut from the impact of aging on major organs to its effect on personality, and it has become a standard reference on aging.

Andrea Halpern, a professor of psychology and neuroscience at Bucknell University, has had students in her upper-level course on cognitive aging review BLSA research. Already a "rich database" of information, she said, the research will continue to grow in importance as people live longer.

"The BLSA isn't perfect," said Alan Zonderman, senior investigator for the cognition section of the National Institute on Aging. "There are limitations to it. But all of the limitations are overcome by the fact that we have all of these repeated measures on these people that no one else has."

When a participant falls ill, researchers can examine decades' worth of records to find a cause.

"We can say, maybe it's not what's happening to them now, but what happened 20 years ago," said senior investigator Susan Resnick, who is principal investigator of the brain-imaging component of the BLSA.

"Probably the most frequent complaint people in their 70s make to their physicians is how bad their memory is," Zonderman said. "People worry about dementia in some ways more than they worry about getting cancer."

"A lot of our work focuses on early detection," he continued. "We're able to predict in some cases, not very accurately at this point, but with increasing accuracy ... who is likely to get the disease, who is at the highest risk."

Zonderman was part of the team that found that changes in BLSA participants' visual memory may help predict future mental changes as well as signal the onset of diseases such as Alzheimer's.

Other BLSA studies have found that loss of some short-term visual memory is normal as people age, as is loss of some hearing.

BLSA researchers were able to disprove the long-held belief that people get crankier as they age. Using data collected from the study's participants, they found that personality traits don't generally change much after age 30: People who were cranky at 27 were likely to be cranky at 87.

Researchers also found that older people were better able to handle stress than their younger counterparts, who tended to cope by becoming hostile or retreating into fantasy worlds.

Life & Style

Start with Jay Leno in evaluating new TV season

NEW YORK (AP)—For a fourth-place network that hasn't been a threat to anyone but itself the past few years, NBC sure drew a lot of negative attention from its rivals when new fall prime-time schedules were revealed.

Maybe they're actually worried.

NBC's decision to air a Jay Leno comedy hour every weeknight at 10 o'clock overshadows anything else broadcasters are planning for the fall. It could be an ingenious move, or it could give CBS and ABC a better chance at establishing scripted shows in that hour and bury NBC deeper.

Jimmy Kimmel, speaking during ABC's presentation to advertisers, said that NBC wouldn't let Leno jump ship "even if they had to destroy their entire network." Dawn Ostroff, entertainment president of the tiny CW network, reminded advertisers that it had as much scripted programming as NBC.

CBS Corp. chief executive Leslie Moonves, as he often has, really knew how to stick the knife in.

"There's a difference between the (broadcast TV) model being broken," he said, "and not being able to find any new hit shows for years."

NBC is already warning that the Leno move can't be measured like most new fall shows, when two or three weeks make all the difference. Take into account what Leno does all year, particularly when the other networks are showing repeats, said NBC Universal chief executive Jeff Zucker. Because Leno's show will be much cheaper to produce than scripted dramas, it doesn't necessarily have to win in the ratings to be a financial hit.

"I understand why our opponents are saying what they are," Zucker said. "I get it. What about the chance that it might work?"

Leno may put on the quintessential "aw shucks" demeanor, but he doesn't deny the competitive challenge.

"That's what gives you the impetus to go out and do what you do," he told reporters. "To prove people wrong."

Finances played a big part in network decisions, like when NBC canceled "My Name is Earl" and CBS axed "The Unit" and "Without a Trace." They'd reached the point where executives considered them too expensive to produce. But a handful of creative trends emerged that may bear watching:

■ The return of comedy: Broadcast television comedy has been on a slow decline, but NBC is in part selling the Leno move as counterprogramming to blood and guts dramas at 10 p.m. The network will air some prime-time "Weekend Update" segments with the idea that topical comedy is hot. ABC is starting a comedy night on Wednesdays and aired one of its pilots, "Modern Family," in full for advertisers. It's flat-out hilarious.

■ Friday night lights: Broadcasters have gradually been dimming the lights on Friday, much as they have largely given up on Saturdays. With talked-about series like ABC's "Ugly Betty," NBC's "Southland" and Fox's "Dollhouse" on Friday next fall, there seems to be more of a competitive effort.

■ Retreads: You may have seen these ideas before. ABC ("Eastwick") and NBC ("Parenthood") are turning movies into series. ABC's "V" remakes a 1980s era science fiction tale. CBS is spinning off "NCIS" and Fox is spinning off "Family Guy" for new series. The CW is making a new "Melrose Place," to join its remake of "90210." Oh, and it has a new series about vampires. Each of the four new comedies that ABC will air on Wednesdays features an actor who has already found fame on a sitcom: Kelsey Grammer, Patricia Heaton, Ed O'Neill and Courteney Cox. "Like clothing, there are really no new styles," said Shari Ann Brill, analyst for Carat USA. "It's a reinvention of something that was out previously."

AP

In this May 10, 2009 file photo, comedian Jay Leno performs during the Jay Leno Comedy Stimulus Plan show at the Roberts Centre in Wilmington, Ohio.

■ Meds: The retirement of "ER" caused networks to search for new heart-pounding, as opposed to heart-melting ("Grey's Anatomy") medical dramas. NBC's "Trauma" follows paramedics in San Francisco. CBS' midseason "Miami Trauma" follows paramedics in, you guessed it. CBS' "Three Rivers" is about organ donation.

■ Cougars: Cox in "Cougar Town" is an older woman new to the dating scene. Jenna Elfman in CBS' "Accidentally on Purpose" picks up, and keeps, a much younger man.

Museum opens high-tech gallery on recent genocides

WASHINGTON (AP)—A common refrain from those who study the Holocaust is "never again." The words appear over and over in comments left by visitors at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum.

The past 15 years, however, have forced people to face the grim reality of genocide in Bosnia, Rwanda and more recently in the Darfur region of Sudan.

AP

This May 21, 2009 photo shows visitors entering the exhibit "From Memory to Action: Meeting the Challenge of Genocide" at the Holocaust Memorial and Museum in Washington.

"When we say 'Never Again,' what does it mean?" asks Holocaust survivor and Nobel laureate Elie Wiesel in a new exhibit at the Washington, D.C., museum, "From Memory to Action: Meeting the Challenge of Genocide." His question draws a striking contrast next to a photograph of a Rwandan survivor who lives with three deep machete scars across his face.

This is the starting point for a $1.6 million interactive gallery and Web site that challenges visitors to make civilian lives a higher priority for world leaders—and realize that genocide is not just for the history books.

"We wanted them to move from the black and white of history to the full color of today," curator Bridget Conley-Zilkic said of the new gallery located just outside the museum's permanent exhibit. "This is what genocide has looked like in our time."

Genocide was defined in international law in 1948. But that law essentially went unused until 1993, when a United Nations criminal tribunal found that Muslim men and boys had been systematically killed in the small enclave of Srebrenica, Bosnia. A year later, a sister tribunal was created for Rwanda. These are the only two cases to have an international criminal examination of whether genocide occurred.

The exhibit weaves these stories together with the case of Darfur, based on the U.S. government's stance and the museum's stance that the killing there constitutes genocide. Since 2003, up to 300,000 people have been killed and millions more left homeless in desert conditions, suffering from disease and hunger.

"War and genocide are not the same, although genocide often happens in the context of war," Conley-Zilkic said. "And what happens in these cases? Groups are destroyed, person by person."

Sections of the exhibit focus on warning signs that ethnic, racial or religious groups are being targeted, as well as common ingredients that have led to genocide—actions of leaders, dramatic changes within a country and attacks on civilian groups.

Much of the exhibit is based on eyewitness accounts of 25 individuals, ranging from humanitarian workers to survivors and journalists.

CNN's Christiane Amanpour talks of her shock at reporting on mass killings in Bosnia, in a place that once hosted the Olympic games.

"When journalists do their duty and report the story," she says in a video, "then it does eventually make a difference."

The firsthand accounts are also told through an interactive table that allows visitors to save certain stories by scanning an individual bar code that will let them to read further at home on a personalized section of the museum's Web site. Curators hope the museum's 1.7 million annual visitors will pass some of the content along to others through the site's social networking tools.

Finally, each visitor is challenged to write a personal pledge to respond to genocide. The messages, written with an electronic pen that reads their strokes, are added to a large video wall—an ever-changing visual element created in part by visitors.

Within the first month of the exhibit's opening, more than 10,000 people have made pledges, the museum said.

For Jasmine Keller, 17, who just graduated from high school in Moses Lake, Wash., the exhibit had more of an emotional impact than she expected. She plans to attend Whitworth University, a private Christian school, and vowed to pay more attention to news about Darfur.

"I will never let discrimination, death and hurt pass me by," she wrote in her meticulous personal commitment at the museum. "Never again will I turn my cheek. Never again."

'CSI' writer sued by couple over show's characters

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A couple sued a writer for the CBS show "CSI," claiming two shady characters on the show were named after them in revenge for a real estate deal gone bad.

Real estate agents Melinda and Scott Tamkin on Friday sued writer and producer Sarah Goldfinger for defamation and invasion-of-privacy. They are seeking $6 million in damages, alleging the show hurt their real estate business.

Calls to Goldfinger and CBS were not immediately returned.

The Tamkins represented the owners of a Los Angeles home that Goldfinger wanted to buy in 2005, according to the lawsuit. Goldfinger pulled out when the sale was in escrow, but there was no indication of any animosity at the time.

The "CSI: Crime Scene Investigation" show set in Las Vegas featured a real estate agent named Melinda, who dies under mysterious circumstances, and her husband Scott, a mortgage broker who watches pornography, drinks and is suspected of killing his wife, according to the suit.

The characters had the last name Tamkin in an original screenplay and Goldfinger helped cast actors who looked like the Tamkins, according to the lawsuit. The Tamkins claim the characters' last name was changed to Tucker at the last minute, which they said was evidence Goldfinger borrowed details from their lives.

Anthony Glassman, the Tamkins' attorney, said potential clients looking for their real estate company could have been deterred from contacting them because episode descriptions were online for months before the program aired.

Kiefer Sutherland, designer resolve issues

AP

In this May 12, 2009 file photo, actor Kiefer Sutherland arrives at the "24" Season 7 finale screening and panel discussion in Los Angeles.

NEW YORK (AP)—Kiefer Sutherland and the fashion designer he's accused of head-butting at a Manhattan night club said Friday they resolved their differences, clearing the way for the charges to be dropped. Sutherland and Jack McCollough issued a brief joint statement Friday to The Associated Press through Sutherland's attorney.

"I am sorry about what happened that night and sincerely regret that Mr. McCollough was injured," Sutherland said in the statement.

The star of Fox television's "24" was charged May 7 with third-degree assault in the alleged incident two weeks ago at a nightclub at the Mercer Hotel in the trendy SoHo neighborhood of Manhattan. The minor charge is comparable to a speeding ticket.

A spokeswoman for the Manhattan District Attorney's office declined to comment on whether the charges would be dismissed.

But now that Sutherland and McCollough say they have resolved their differences, a prosecutor may go before a judge and ask that the case be dropped. That could happen at Sutherland's next scheduled court appearance on June 22.

"I appreciate Mr. Sutherland's statement and wish him well," McCollough said in the statement.

McCollough, of the high-end Proenza Schouler fashion house, said Sutherland head-butted him and broke his nose after an argument. The two were out following the gala at the Costume Institute of The Metropolitan Museum of Art, a fancy affair studded with celebrities.

The story spurred a media frenzy as a swarm of reporters gathered outside the 1st Precinct in Manhattan to watch as Sutherland arrived for questioning and was charged. Photographers also shadowed Sutherland and McCollough while rumors swirled about the nature of their altercation and what role, if any, actress Brooke Shields might have played.

Sutherland, who has won a Golden Globe and an Emmy for his portrayal of dashing federal counterterrorism agent Jack Bauer on "24," pleaded no contest in October 2007 to driving with a blood-alcohol level above the legal limit of 0.08 percent.

He served 30 days in jail, in addition to 18 days for violating probation in a 2004 drunken-driving arrest.

Tarantino loves going into movie mode at Cannes

CANNES, France (AP)—Quentin Tarantino had so much fun competing at the Cannes Film Festival two years ago that when he got home, he staged his own mini-Cannes.

Tarantino—who won the Palme d'Or, Cannes' top prize, in 1994 for "Pulp Fiction and also headed the jury that awarded the same honor to "Fahrenheit 9/11" in 2004—was at Cannes with his psycho-killer thriller "Death Proof" in 2007.

"I had such a good time and it brought back memories of me being on the jury that when I went home, I went into my DVD collection and I picked 14 films from all over the world that I had never seen and decided to have my own little Cannes Film Festival," said Tarantino, who is competing again at Cannes with the World War II epic "Inglourious Basterds."

"In the course of, like, a week and a half, I watched those 14 movies and then judged them as if I was on a jury, a jury of myself, just watching them. And then I gave out my own little awards."

Tarantino's imaginary Palme d'Or went to Tom Tykwer's "Perfume: The Story of a Murderer."

"Inglourious Basterds" has had a mixed reception from Cannes crowds, some critics finding it jumbled and overreaching, others praising its sly humor, stylish production and revisionist twist on how the war ended.

The film stars Brad Pitt as leader of a "Dirty Dozen"-style band of Jewish soldiers who spread mayhem and terror behind German lines. They're enlisted in a bold plot to take out the Third Reich's leaders at the premiere of a Nazi propaganda film in Paris.

Tarantino, 46, has been rushing about to see some of the other 19 films his is up against, including the hit man thriller "Vengeance" from Johnnie To and the vampire romance "Thirst" from Park Chan-wook, whose "Oldboy" was awarded second prize by Tarantino's Cannes jury in 2004.

"The thing about it is, I don't have to worry about any movie being like mine," Tarantino said of "Inglourious Basterds," which literally rewrites the history books. "So that's not the issue."

Along with Tarantino's movie, the Cannes competition landed films from a dream team of three other past winners (Jane Campion's "Bright Star," Ken Loach's "Looking for Eric" and Lars von Trier's "Antichrist"), plus entries from such masters as Pedro Almodovar ("Broken Embraces") and Ang Lee ("Taking Woodstock").

Does Tarantino watch films differently when he knows he's competing against them?

"The answer to that is yes and no," Tarantino said. "I want them all to be great. I want every movie I see to be fantastic, so it's not like I'm running out to see all of these movies hoping that they're bad. I want them to be wonderful. I want to be invigorated by them. I want to be inspired by them. I want the competition to be terrific, and this is the year of fantastic auteurs. This is like almost an auteur smackdown going up.

"So no way I'm going to this festival without seeing as many movies as I possibly can."

Jurors deliberate contenders for Cannes Palme d'Or

CANNES, France (AP)—Billed at the outset as a showdown between big-name auteurs such as Quentin Tarantino, Ang Lee and Lars von Trier, the Cannes Film Festival is nearing its end with lesser-known filmmakers among the favorites to win the Palme d'Or, the event's top prize.

Two French films, Jacques Audiard's prison saga "A Prophet" and Xavier Giannoli's ex-con tale "In the Beginning," had warm receptions and could bring France its second-straight festival triumph after Laurent Cantet's school drama "The Class" won last year. Before that, a French film had not won at Cannes since 1987.

Cannes prizes will be announced Sunday, the festival's closing day.

Audiard and Giannoli each present stories centering on a small-time crook expanding into more ambitious enterprises, and both films feature front-runner performances for the festival's best-actor award.

"A Prophet" casts newcomer Tahar Rahim as an inmate who arrives in prison an illiterate thug and applies his wiles to become a player in drug and smuggling circles. Veteran actor Francois Cluzet stars in "In the Beginning," playing a newly released criminal whose petty cons and forgeries lead him into an elaborate shell game as overseer of a construction project.

Also in the running for Cannes honors are Austrian Michael Haneke for "The White Ribbon," his somber study of a troubled German village on the eve of World War I; British director Andrea Arnold for "Fish Tank," a portrait of a bold teenager stuck in a dreary working-class home life; and Palestinian Elia Suleiman's "The Time That Remains," a semi-autobiographical love letter to his parents that chronicles the family's experiences under Israeli occupation since 1948.

Cannes critics have been keeping scorecards on the 20 films in the main competition since the festival opened May 13, trying to anticipate which might find favor with the nine-member jury headed by French actress Isabelle Huppert. The jury also includes actresses Robin Wright Penn and Asia Argento, director James Gray and author Hanif Kureishi.

But Tarantino - winner of the 1994 Palme d'Or for "Pulp Fiction and in competition again with his World War II epic "Inglourious Basterds"—said that when it comes to predicting festival winners, "nobody knows anything."

"The buzz going about this movie or that movie doesn't mean nothing," said Tarantino, who headed the Cannes jury that awarded the top prize to Michael Moore's "Fahrenheit 9/11" in 2004. "The critics, what they say ... it means nothing, because the jury doesn't know the buzz. The jury doesn't read the reviews. They're sequestered together. They only know their points of view, and they've talked about their points of view so much that that's all that's in their head."

AP

In this May 16, 2009 file photo, French director Jacques Audiard speaks during a press conference for the film 'Taking Woodstock', at the 62nd International film festival in Cannes, southern France.

Singing sensation Boyle gets new chance to shine

LONDON (AP)—Britain's unlikely singing sensation Susan Boyle, the frumpy church volunteer who wowed the world with her angelic voice, was on Saturday voted into the next round of a TV talent show that propelled her to global fame.

The 47-year-old, who lives alone with her cat Pebbles in one of Scotland's poorest regions, will now perform in a live show on Sunday, weeks after her surprising performance of "I Dreamed a Dream" from the musical "Les Miserables" shocked judges and charmed tens of millions of people worldwide.

Boyle's performance last month on the "American Idol"-style show "Britain's Got Talent" has been viewed almost 60 million times on You Tube, and saw the shy Scot feted by celebrities, including Oprah Winfrey and Demi Moore.

The awkward looking Boyle, who says she's never been kissed, was greeted with giggles from a skeptical audience and eye rolls from the show's famously sardonic judge Simon Cowell when she appeared in April—but startled viewers with her soaring voice.

AP

In this image made from video and provided April 17, 2009 by CNN's "Larry King Live" shows Scottish singer Susan Boyle.

In an update on her Twitter Web site, Moore wrote that Boyle's voice had "made me teary!"

Cowell and his fellow judges said Saturday that Boyle is among 40 performers they've selected to advance in the competition.

Bookmaker William Hill makes Boyle a runaway favorite to win the final on May 30.

"She had a tremendous reaction because of the phenomenon that is YouTube—it's now all over the world and she's coping rather well," said the singer's brother, Gerry Boyle. "But I think some of the reality is now starting to sink in."

The youngest of nine children, Boyle grew up in Blackburn, a community of 4,750 people 20 miles (32 kilometers) west of Edinburgh, in Scotland—a district blighted by unemployment and crime. Boyle had learning difficulties as a child and was bullied by other children.

As an adult, she's struggled for work but had been a regular on her local karaoke circuit and performed in church choirs.

In an interview with The Associated Press at her home last month, she said the death of her mother had inspired her to enter the TV talent show. "I wanted to show her I could do something with my life," Boyle said.

Since then, she's appeared on "The Oprah Winfrey Show" and had a makeover, to tame her frizzy gray-tinged hair.

"I think she is coping very well at the moment, she is just Susan. Just as calm as you like. Just carrying on as normal," said Jackie Russell, manager of Boyle's local pub The Happy Valley Hotel, in Blackburn.

Sara Lee, a spokeswoman for "Britain's Got Talent" said that Boyle's performance on Sunday will be available almost instantly on Internet, allowing her international fans a chance to watch the singer's latest appearance.

But she refused to say what song Boyle will perform in the broadcast, which will be screened live in Britain.

Porn publisher Larry Flynt sued by brother

CINCINNATI (AP)—The brother of Hustler magazine publisher Larry Flynt is accusing his famous sibling of trying to force him out of the family's pornography business.

Larry Flynt owns a building in downtown Cincinnati where his brother operates a Hustler retail store.

In a lawsuit filed Friday in Ohio, Jimmy Flynt says his brother wants to evict him in retaliation for refusing to give a loan to Larry Flynt Productions. Larry Flynt contends his brother is behind in rent.

Jimmy Flynt says the eviction notice is also an attempt by Larry Flynt to get leverage in a separate trademark lawsuit in California.

In that case, Larry Flynt has sued his brother's two sons for selling their own line of adult movies under the family name.

Jimmy Flynt is asking a judge to stop the eviction.

Elizabeth Taylor tweets from her hospital bed

AP

In this Sept. 25, 2008 file photo, Elizabeth Taylor arrives for the 26th Annual Macy's Passport to Fashion gala in Santa Monica, Calif.

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Elizabeth Taylor is in the hospital, but she's well enough to communicate on Twitter.

A publicist for the 77-year-old actress says she "entered the hospital for a routine visit and is doing fine."

Spokesman Dick Guttman added that Taylor has "fallen in love" with the popular microblogging site and that she is trying to smuggle her new puppy into her hospital room.

She tweeted Friday, asking a friend to get the dog past hospital security.

Guttman said Taylor "will be home soon" but he did not specify when she would be released.

Aiken: Sorry for my 'colorful' critique, Adam

NEW YORK (AP)—Clay Aiken says blood didn't truly pour forth from his ears when he heard runner-up Adam Lambert sing "Ring of Fire"—and hey, he's sorry for his "colorful choice of words."

The former Idol contestant writes in a blog on his Web site dated Friday that "I obviously meant it as a colorful statement to imply that I did not enjoy what I heard." He also says he didn't mean it as "a 'slam' on Adam as a person."

He had blasted Lambert's take on the classic Johnny Cash tune as "contrived," "awful" and "slightly frightening." Aiken says he hopes Lambert can forgive him—but adds Lambert probably doesn't care about what he said.

Aiken lost out to Ruben Studdard in 2003. He's since released several albums, appeared on Broadway and publicly confirmed he's gay.

AP

In this March 28, 2009 file photo, singer Clay Aiken attends the 20th Annual Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD) Media Awards in New York.

Male friend is out in cold after woman gets married

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: I am a gay man who has been with my partner for 31 years. I have a female friend, "Josie," whom I have known for years. She holds an executive position in the local bank and must attend many fundraisers. I have been her escort to many of them. Josie knows and likes my partner, and he has never had a problem with my going to these social events with her.

Recently Josie became engaged, and she is now married. I was invited to the wedding, but my partner was not included on the invitation. I chose not to attend because of it. I have not heard from her since. It has been almost four months.

Josie's husband is a retired military man. I suspect she would rather not let him know about having a gay male couple as friends. Should I confront her or just end the friendship?

DON'T ASK OR TELL IN ALBUQUERQUE

DEAR D.A.O.T.: Have a chat with Josie, lay your cards on the table, and let her do the same. If it's true that she's hiding her "past" and her husband is a narrow-minded homophobe, then you're certainly within your rights to move on. But give her a chance to explain.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: I am a 75-year-old man, and the past two years have been amazing. I met a woman with whom I had graduated from high school. She was also widowed after having been married 50 years. I knew her family back then, but we were just friends.

We are both is good health and enjoy being companions, going to movies, dancing, concerts, etc. I never in my wildest dreams imagined that we would be anything but pals—but fate has a way of changing things. We have fallen in love.

After the life experiences of working, raising a family, losing a spouse and being alone a few years, love this time around is so much different. She loved her husband and I loved my wife, but at this stage of life we have come to appreciate even more deeply the magic of love.

We feel privileged to have this gift. We are young once again. Even our children say we're like two teenagers. Someone once wrote, "Love is a many splendored thing." Those words are true indeed.

CHARLES IN MICHIGAN

DEAR CHARLES: Some people believe that Cupid's arrow can strike only the young, but your letter shows mature love can be like fine wine in that its fullness and depth improve with age. Congratulations to both of you. I hope you enjoy many more years of happiness together.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: What do you answer when someone says, "You look tired"? I seem to get this a lot lately, and I know it's because I'm looking older. People may be showing concern, but don't you think it's a little bit of a downer?

OLDER, NOT TIRED

DEAR NOT TIRED: Not only is it a downer, it's also rude. When someone makes that comment, simply reply, "But I'm not tired. I sleep very well, thank you." Then watch the person try to remove foot from mouth.

■■■

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

■■■

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order "How to Be Popular." Send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $6 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby – Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

HELP ME PUSH THE CAR OUT OF THE GARAGE. I CAN'T BUDGE IT BY MYSELF.
I STILL THINK YOU SHOULD ASK YOUR MOM TO MOVE IT.
THEN SHE'D PROBABLY SAY NO, AND WE WON'T HAVE THE GARAGE FOR OUR CLUBHOUSE!
BUT IF WE DON'T ASK HER, WE'LL GET IN TROUBLE.
WE WON'T GET IN TROUBLE!
EVERY TIME YOU SAY THAT, WE DO.
MOM WOULDN'T CARE ABOUT THESE THINGS IF SHE WOULDN'T KEEP FINDING OUT ABOUT THEM.
5/25
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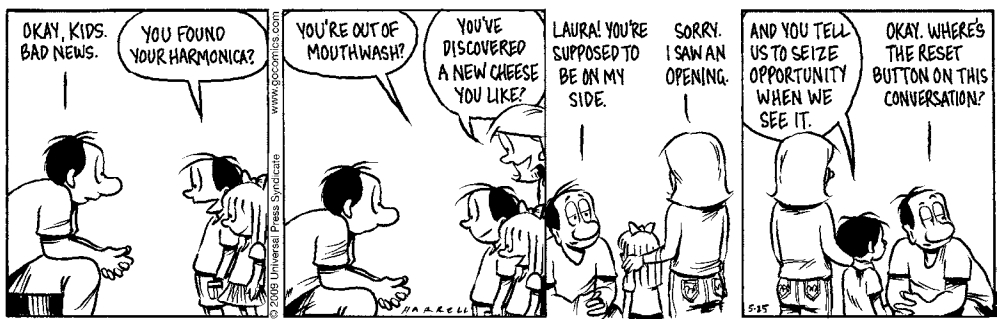
Garfield®

By Jim Davis

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


OKAY, KIDS. BAD NEWS.
YOU FOUND YOUR HARMONICA?
YOU'RE OUT OF MOUTHWASH?
YOU'VE DISCOVERED A NEW CHEESE YOU LIKE?
LAURA! YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE ON MY SIDE.
SORRY. I SAW AN OPENING.
AND YOU TELL US TO SEIZE OPPORTUNITY WHEN WE SEE IT.
OKAY. WHERE'S THE RESET BUTTON ON THIS CONVERSATION?
5-25
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The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

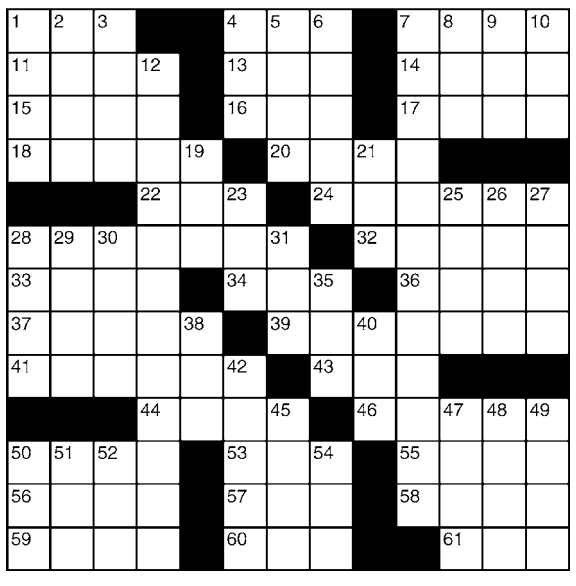
ACROSS
1 I love (Lat.)
4 Recede
7 Detest
11 Over-extended
13 Hair-salon item
14 First victim
15 Afrikaner
16 "— whiz!"
17 57-Across site
18 Confused
20 On pension (Abbr.)
22 Commotion
24 Snapshots
28 Automobile framework
32 Bring forth
33 Sharpen
34 Matlock's field
36 A Great Lake
37 Enola Gay payload
39 Units of measure
41 Pay
43 "Cool!" (Sl.)
44 Furtive call
46 Teeny-tiny
50 Dog bane
53 Pick a target
55 Counterfeit
56 Prison compartment
57 Floral adornment
58 Polynesian carving
59 Serene
60 "— Winterbourne"
61 Favorite

DOWN
1 Actress Jessica
2 Academic
3 Individuals
4 Omelet necessity
5 "Cheers" order
6 Censor's sound
7 Quickly and in large amounts
8 Homer Simpson's dad
9 Sleuth
10 Wapiti
12 Request for a bribe
19 Billboards
21 Definite article
23 Lubricate
25 Ripped
26 "Grapes of Wrath" type
27 Gets a glimpse of
28 Bloke
29 Vagrant
30 Unsigned (Abbr.)
31 Despondent
35 Marry
38 Clear the tables
40 Prized possession
42 Song of praise
45 Layer
47 Ante, maybe
48 Autumn tool
49 Leave out
50 Media watchdog org.
51 Meadow
52 Right angle
54 Wrong (Pref.)

Solution time: 24 mins.

■	D	R	A	I	N	■	D	R	A	M	A	■
S	I	E	R	R	A	■	E	E	R	I	L	Y
M	A	N	T	I	S	■	B	E	E	T	L	E
U	T	E	■	S	T	E	A	K	■	T	I	L
T	O	G	A	■	Y	E	T	■	B	E	E	P
S	M	E	L	L	■	L	E	G	E	N	D	S
■	■	■	■	O	E	R	■	D	O	E	■	■
S	H	I	N	I	E	R	■	B	R	O	W	S
H	O	P	E	■	E	A	T	■	S	U	I	T
A	B	E	■	U	N	W	E	D	■	T	E	A
L	O	C	U	S	T	■	M	E	D	F	L	Y
T	E	A	S	E	R	■	P	L	A	I	D	S
■	S	C	A	R	Y	■	T	I	N	T	S	■

Saturday's answer 5-25



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Lauryn Hill, 34; Anne Heche, 40; Mike Myers, 46; Leslie Uggams, 66

Happy Birthday: You have to be a contributor not a bystander if you want to make the most of the good things heading your way. Don't limit yourself because you don't want to reveal your emotions. The human touch will bring you the highest returns. Be smart, prudent and responsible. Your numbers are 2, 5, 14, 16, 20, 23, 43

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Project good feelings and interesting ideas and you can get something off the ground that was impossible in the past. Greater respect for what you do and how you handle others will be yours. You will impress someone who can influence your future. ✪✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): It's a changing playing field so be ready to take on whatever comes your way. Your imaginative ideas will grab attention and get others to respond with help. Work within groups that you normally would not do business with. ✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Don't talk—listen and you will receive useful information that will give you the edge. You will receive a host of ideas from your competitors on which you can build a solid and superior service or product. ✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Someone is talking behind your back. Ask questions but reveal little about your life. An older, experienced friend or relative will have insight into your situation and a solution that will work if you follow through. ✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Love is escalating and time spent with someone special will help you decide what you are capable of accomplishing as a couple. Your ability to tell a colorful story will help you sell whatever you have to offer. ✪✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): You may not be in the company of people you can trust, especially when it comes to professional plans. Keep your thoughts, ideas and intentions to yourself. A sudden change in your status can be set off by an emotional reaction. ✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): You have everyone eating out of your hand, so keep talking until you get your way. A unique partnership can form but, if you are lazy or try to get someone to do the brunt of the tough jobs, your position will change rapidly. Do your share. ✪✪✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Nothing is as it appears so don't jump to conclusions. There is money to be made but you must stay on top of every move and deal with people directly in order to remain in control. An emotional matter will cause you grief. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): You have to stick to your own means and methods in order to be successful. A change of plans regarding a partnership may leave you feeling left out or betrayed. Look to someone with whom you have more in common for answers. ✪✪✪

CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Put your attention where it belongs and you will make professional gains. Partner with someone who has sound ideas but needs help with development. An informative discussion will help you make a decision about your current living arrangements. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Make your home conducive to studying or working on a project. An emotional issue can be put to rest. A friendship is escalating and can lead to an interesting personal and professional partnership. ✪✪✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Erratic behavior on your part or on the part of someone you have to deal with can be expected. Emotional matters will create tension so get things out in the open. Face the truth if you want to move forward. ✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are bright, determined and a hard worker. You fight for the causes and people you believe in most. You are strong and dependable.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun,* ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations*

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

1			5		3			2
	8			7			4	
		6		2		9		
8				4				3
	3	9	6	5	2	7	8	
7				3				6
		7		8		6		
	4			1			3	
2			4		5			8

Difficulty Level ★ 5/25

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

7	5	3	4	9	8	6	2	1
9	8	4	2	6	1	5	3	7
2	6	1	5	3	7	9	4	8
5	7	2	8	4	3	1	9	6
8	4	6	7	1	9	2	5	3
3	1	9	6	5	2	7	8	4
4	2	7	9	8	6	3	1	5
1	9	5	3	7	4	8	6	2
6	3	8	1	2	5	4	7	9

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 5/23

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

CONTROLLING POPULATION GROWTH **Solution: 12 letters**

S	W	H	C	U	R	(T)	A	I	L	A	I	C	O	S
C	T	A	X	E	(S)	R	C	D	S	P	I	T	L	C
A	N	B	R	(O)	C	D	E	U	E	O	V	E	O	I
R	E	I	(C)	S	O	O	S	S	I	V	R	N	R	T
C	V	T	H	O	R	N	L	R	T	E	E	A	T	I
I	E	A	F	T	E	E	E	O	P	R	M	L	N	L
T	R	T	L	C	R	D	G	R	G	T	I	P	O	O
Y	P	W	A	E	U	I	O	N	N	Y	G	C	C	P
T	Y	O	A	C	R	D	B	E	U	E	R	E	T	I
I	T	R	E	T	U	A	R	H	V	H	A	L	Z	K
S	E	G	B	C	E	D	F	A	T	A	T	P	T	C
N	I	A	T	R	L	R	E	L	I	G	I	O	N	A
E	C	I	R	I	E	L	A	T	E	I	O	E	O	R
D	O	O	H	T	N	E	R	A	P	W	N	P	N	T
N	S	C	P	I	H	S	D	R	A	H	U	M	A	N

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Birth, Breed, Census, Children, Control, Cost, Curtail, Density, Develop, Earth, Ecology, Educate, Food, Grow, Habitat, Halt, Hardship, Health, Human, Hunger, Leave, Migration, Parenthood, People, Planet, Politics, Poverty, Prevent, Reduce, Religion, Reproduction, Restrict, Scarcity, Social, Society, Taxes, Track, Wars, Water, Welfare

Last Saturday's Answer: Walking

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WHATZIT Solution: Broken hearted

ENTERTAINMENT

USSP 16th Year Anniversary!
Island Style Jams
Guest singers: Guam, Palau, Chuuk, and Pohnpei
May 29th & May 30th, 2009

ANNOUNCEMENT

Announcement of closure. Doko (Saipan) Inc- P.O. Box 501847, Saipan, MP 96950 has closed its local office. Any outstanding unpaid charges should be sent to above address by 06/01/09.

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WHATZIT?™

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

hear ted

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Saipan Tribune

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• 5-Liner with picture	$55

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Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:
- *Saipan Tribune:* All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

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Classified Ads

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REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

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Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

Bryant's late 3-pointer sparks Lakers past Nuggets

DENVER (AP)—Kobe Bryant's 3-pointer wasn't nearly as dramatic as LeBron James' but equally effective. Bryant's big shot over J.R. Smith gave Los Angeles a one-point lead with just over a minute left Saturday night and sparked the Lakers to a 103-97 victory over the downtrodden Denver Nuggets for a 2-1 lead in the Western Conference finals.

Bryant, who scored 41 points, went 5-of-6 on free throws to ice it after his 3-pointer gave Los Angeles a 96-95 lead.

Carmelo Anthony scored 21 points but just three after halftime for Denver, which lost at home for the first time since March 9. He was 4-for-13 in his worst performance of the postseason.

Before Saturday night, the Nuggets had been dominant at home in the playoffs. They ran away with all six games at Pepsi Center against the New Orleans Hornets and Dallas Mavericks by an average of 17.5 points.

But as Bryant said, "It's the Western Conference finals. It should be close."

The Nuggets, who led most of the game but were done in by poor decisions and a failure to keep their composure, fell behind by four points when Trevor Ariza stole Kenyon Martin's inbounds pass, was fouled by Anthony and sank two foul shots for a 99-95 lead with 36 seconds left.

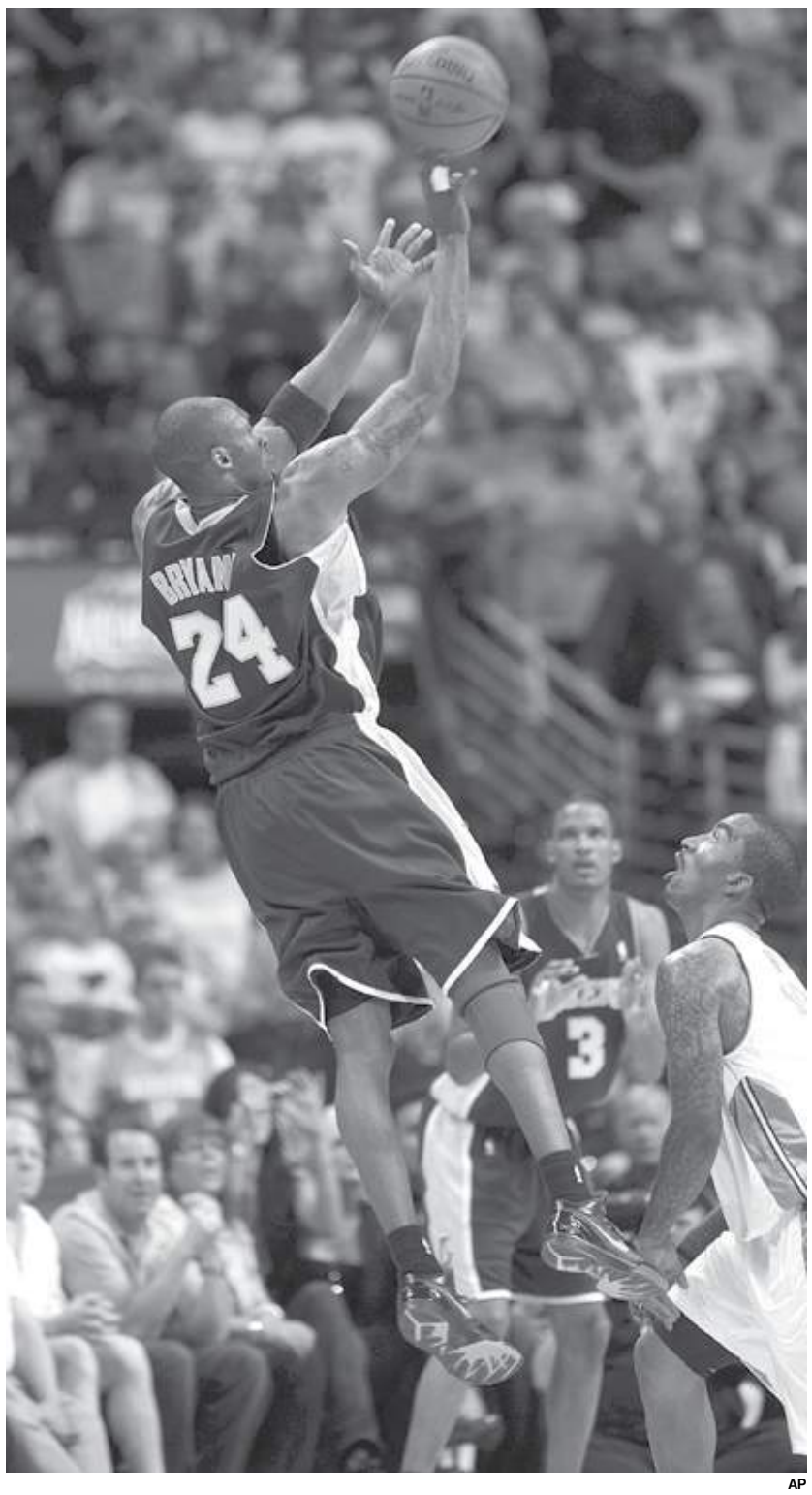
Chauncey Billups' two free throws made it 99-97, but Bryant sank two more free throws with 22 seconds remaining, Billups missed a 3-pointer and Bryant capped his big night with two more foul shots with 12 seconds left.

Several hours before the game, Bryant was admiring James' buzzer-beater that gave Cleveland a 96-95 win over Orlando in the Eastern Conference finals, saying big-time players make big-time shots.

He showed that.

The Nuggets had won 16 in a row at home, and now Los Angeles has grabbed back the home-court advantage.

Game 4 is Monday night, when the Lakers and Nuggets will have the Pepsi Center to themselves after World Wrestling Entertainment moved Monday Night Raw to the Staples Center in Los Angeles because of the double booking that WWE chairman Vince McMahon milked for all it was worth.



AP

Los Angeles Lakers guard Kobe Bryant shoots over the top of Denver Nuggets guard J.R. Smith during the final minutes of Game 3 of the NBA basketball Western Conference finals Saturday, May 23, 2009, in Denver.

That doesn't mean the crowd in Denver won't see some elbows, forearms and more trash talking like they did Saturday night, when there were five technicals called, including one on Smith for taunting Sasha Vujacic after swishing a 3-pointer at the third-quarter buzzer.

The Nuggets took a 79-71 lead on Smith's bucket. Vujacic, who had just hit a 3-pointer of his own, his first points of the game, nearly stole Billups' pass, but Smith snared it, spun and swished the 3-pointer as the backboard lit up in red and he fell to the floor with the crowd going crazy.

Caught up in the moment, Smith jumped up jawing at Vujacic and was T'd up.

Denver coach George Karl told ABC at the break that he didn't like the way the Nuggets had played the third quarter, saying they had lost composure with fouls and technicals and weren't playing smart.

Before the fourth quarter started, Bryant swished the technical free throw, and the comeback had begun.

Ariza's 3-pointer gave the Lakers an 81-80 lead with 7 1/2 minutes remaining.

After Billups' four-point play—a 3-pointer while getting bumped by Bryant—gave Denver a 89-86 lead, Pau Gasol hit back-to-back jumpers over Nene to put the Lakers back on top, and Bryant's bucket made it 92-91 with three minutes left.

The Lakers were just 9-of-17 on free throws in the first half and Denver hit 17 of 20, but the Nuggets couldn't break free for one of their patented spurts, twice missing three shots on one trip downcourt when a bucket would have given them some cushion.

NBA BRIEFS

Source: Chris Ford interviewed for 76ers job

Chris Ford, a pro scout with the Philadelphia 76ers who was interim coach five years ago, has interviewed for the team's head coaching job. A person with knowledge of the interview said Friday that Ford was one of two candidates team president Ed Stefanski did not announce. The source spoke on condition of anonymity because Ford's interview was not disclosed. Stefanski also did not say he had talked to Villanova coach Jay Wright, who acknowledged the interview but withdrew from consideration on Friday. Ford has head coaching experience with the Celtics, Bucks, Clippers and 76ers. The team announced four other candidates interviewed: Former Wizards coach Eddie Jordan, Celtics assistant Tom Thibodeau, Lakers assistant Kurt Rambis, and Mavericks assistant Dwane Casey. ***(AP)***

New T-Wolves chief set to meet with McHale

MINNEAPOLIS (AP)—Glen Taylor has completed step one for reshaping his Minnesota Timberwolves. Even though David Kahn is now in place as the chief decision maker on the basketball side of Taylor's most high-profile company, the owner knows there are still many questions to be answered as the Timberwolves continue their rebuilding plan. One thing Taylor made abundantly clear when he introduced Kahn on Friday as the president of basketball operations—decisions on the future of coach Kevin McHale and the rest of the front office will be made solely by Kahn. The former Indiana Pacers executive said he will meet with McHale next week to begin talks about his future with the team. The two don't know each other very well and Kahn said no decision has been made. If Kahn wants McHale to stay, McHale must also decide if he wants to continue. "It would be very easy for me to sit here today and say, 'You know what, I'm going to fire Kevin,'" Kahn said. "That would show all of you out here that I have the authority, which I do, to do what I want to do. "I won't make decisions, though, to do what's in my best interests. I'm interested solely in making decisions that are in the best interest of the Minnesota Timberwolves, period."

Sabbatini, Mallinger lead after 3 rounds at Nelson Championship

IRVING, Texas (AP)—Rory Sabbatini has already won at Hogan's Alley. Now he shares the lead going into the final round at Byron Nelson's tournament.

"Anything associated with his name would be an absolute honor," Sabbatini said after a 5-under 65 Saturday to keep a share of the lead at the Byron Nelson Championship.

Two years after his last victory, at the Colonial where Ben Hogan's larger-than-life statue is prominent, Sabbatini is in position to win again after five birdies in a seven-hole stretch midway through his third round.

Sabbatini and John Mallinger, who entered the third round tied as co-leaders, both shot 65 to get to 13-under 197. That is two strokes ahead of three other players.

"Obviously got off to a good start, just putting the ball in the right spots, putting it on the greens, hitting some good putts," Sabbatini said. "And then never really got anything going until No. 5."

Even for the day until he got to the 174-yard fifth hole, Sabbatini's pin-high tee shot rolled back and lipped the cup to set up a 3-foot birdie. He also had three consecutive birdies before making the turn, capped by a 41-footer on the 427-yard ninth hole.

Mallinger, without a win in his first 76 PGA Tour events, had his second consecutive 65. The bogey-free round was much different from Friday, when he had two eagles, four birdies and three bogeys.

"Today was the type of golf that I like to play. Normally, that's my game," Mallinger said. "I kind of had a game plan going in and I stuck with it. I executed, and that was the biggest thing. Being the leader, it was always a little different feeling."

Dustin Johnson struggled after going 6 under through eight holes. He shot 66 to get in at 11 under with D.A. Points (65) and Brian Davis (66). At 10 under were Kevin Streelman (64), Glen Day (65) and Briny Baird (67), who was 5 under through seven holes before three bogeys in a five-hole stretch.

Sabbatini, playing only a few miles from his home this week and next at the Colonial, had a season-low round of 64 Friday. Now he has the best two-round stretch of the season.

After his only bogey, when he missed fairway at No. 14 and had to punch out short of the water, Sabbatini got that stroke back with an 11-foot birdie at No. 15.

Sabbatini wore a pink ribbon atop his cap, the symbol for breast cancer awareness. Phil Mickelson this week indefinitely suspended his golfing schedule following wife Amy's diagnosis.

"Phil and Amy Mickelson are definitely forefront in everyone's thoughts out here," Sabbatini said. "We all know that she's a strong and determined person, and she'll pull through it."

Mallinger made a 9-foot birdie at the 528-yard third, and tapped in for par on the next hole after missing an 8-footer. Consecutive birdies followed, and his only other birdies after that came at Nos. 14 and 15.

Sabbatini had supporters wearing black T-shirts that read "Rory's Rowdy Roadies" on the front and "Team Sabo" on the back. One of the supporters in Mallinger's gallery was his tennis-playing buddy Mark Knowles, who delayed his trip to Paris for doubles competition at the French Open.

"He was supposed to take off (Saturday), and we had a bet if I got in the leader group he had to change his flight," said Mallinger, who has to go to Paris if Knowles makes the finals.

Because of the threat of thunderstorms, players teed off in threesomes off Nos. 1 and 10 and everyone was done by mid-afternoon without any delays or rain. There will be normal tee times with twosomes off No. 1 in the final round.

Davis (66) was in the last-group threesome that included the leaders. He had two birdies the first three holes before the first of his four bogeys.

Johnson was 13 under when he capped a streak of four consecutive birdies with a 9-footer at the 461-yard No. 8 after hitting his approach from the rough.

But Johnson then went right and then left on consecutive wayward tee shots, taking penalty strokes on both. The tee shot at the 427-yard ninth hole went into the water and his 33-foot par putt slid just right of the cup.

After hitting his drive at the 435-yard 10th way left into an unplayable lie near more water, Johnson momentarily stood on the box staring ahead. Once he got to his ball, he took a drop in an adjacent fairway and knocked the approach to 3 feet to save par.

He had three bogeys the final six holes, including the par-5 16th.

"Turning on the back I struggled with my tee balls a lot," Johnson said. "I ended up with 66, so that's never bad. I'm right there in it."

A-Rod, Yankees rally for 3 in 9th to beat Lidge

NEWYORK (AP)— Alex Rodriguez hit a tying homer off Brad Lidge in the ninth inning and Melky Cabrera capped the three-run rally with an RBI single, giving the New York Yankees a 5-4 victory over the Philadelphia Phillies on Saturday.

John Mayberry Jr. hit a three-run homer in his major league debut and Raul Ibanez also connected, helping the Phillies build a 4-2 lead for new starter J.A. Happ.

Lidge (0-2) came on in the ninth and immediately got in trouble. Johnny Damon drew a leadoff walk and stole second. After Mark Teixeira struck out, Rodriguez smacked a full-count pitch over the short porch in right for his seventh homer after missing the first 28 games following hip surgery.

Robinson Cano followed with a single, stole second and scored without a play on Cabrera's single.

Jose Veras (3-1) got one out in the ninth for the win.

AP

New York Yankees' Alex Rodriguez celebrates with teammate Johnny Damon after hitting a two-run homer during the ninth inning of a baseball game as Philadelphia Phillies catcher Chris Coste looks on Saturday, May 23, 2009, in New York.

Rangers 6, Astros 3

At Houston, Nelson Cruz homered twice and Hank Blalock also connected as the Rangers won their second straight in this season's Lone Star series.

Scott Feldman pitched a season-high 6 2-3 innings and Blalock finished with three hits for the Rangers. Feldman (3-0) allowed three runs and five hits.

Miguel Tejada and Geoff Blum homered for Houston. Brian Moehler (1-3) gave up six runs and nine hits in five-plus innings.

Cardinals 5, Royals 0

At St. Louis, Kyle Lohse threw eight innings of four-hit ball and the Cardinals shut out Kansas City for the second straight time, giving the rotation fifth straight dominant outing.

Lohse (4-3) struck out six with no walks, shaking off three straight losses to start the month. Cardinals starters have allowed one run in 36 2-3 innings during a five-game winning streak.

Nick Stavinoha had two first-inning RBIs for the second straight game. Skip Schumaker added his third homer in the third.

Mets 3, Red Sox 2

At Boston, Omir Santos hit a two-run homer off Jonathan Papelbon with two outs in the ninth inning, a drive that was initially ruled a double, and the New York Mets rallied to beat the Boston Red Sox.

The long flyball to left field bounced off the shelf above the Green Monster and was called a double. But after the umpires went into the tunnel for the television replay—the first in Fenway Park history—crew chief Joe West came out and signaled for a home run.

White Sox 4, Pirates 0

At Chicago, Clayton Richard struck out a career-high eight over six innings, Alexei Ramirez homered in his second straight game and the Chicago White Sox shut out the Pittsburgh Pirates again.

Richard (1-0) allowed four hits for his first victory since last August, and the White Sox won for the fourth time in five games. They haven't allowed a run since a franchise record-tying 20-1 loss to Minnesota on Thursday.

Braves 4, Blue Jays 3

At Atlanta, Derek Lowe pitched into the eighth inning and drove in the go-ahead run with one of his two hits, helping the Atlanta Braves send the Toronto Blue Jays to their fifth straight loss.

Lowe (6-2) allowed two runs and five hits in 7 1-3 innings to move into a tie for the NL lead in wins. Toronto's Casey Janssen (0-1) gave up three runs and eight hits over six innings in his first start since 2006 and his first appearance since 2007.

Twins 6, Brewers 2

At Minneapolis, Joe Mauer had three hits, a homer and two RBIs to help Anthony Swarzak win his major league debut for the Minnesota Twins and ensuring Milwaukee's first series loss in five weeks.

Swarzak (1-0) sprinkled five singles over seven shutout innings, walking two and striking out three.

Mauer hit his ninth home run—his career high is 13—in just his 21st game, a two-out liner in the fifth against Braden Looper (4-3). Mauer scored three runs and drew a walk, too, and has hit in 18 of those 21 games since coming off the disabled list.

Rockies 4, Tigers 3

At Detroit, Todd Helton and Chris Iannetta homered to back an efficient performance by Jason Marquis, and the Colorado Rockies ended the Detroit Tigers' seven-game winning streak.

Marquis (6-3) allowed three runs on six hits and a walk in 7 2-3 innings to win his second straight start. Randy Flores got the final out of the eighth and Huston Street pitched the ninth for his sixth save in six tries and the 100th of his career.

Orioles 2, Nationals 1

At Washington, Aubrey Huff drove in the tiebreaking run with a pinch-hit triple in the seventh inning, and the Baltimore Orioles made the most of three hits in a victory over the Washington Nationals.

The Nationals drew their second-largest crowd of the season (31,833) for this interleague matchup of teams located 40 miles apart on the Baltimore-Washington Parkway.

Rays 10, Marlins 3

At Miami, Evan Longoria hit a tiebreaking single in eighth inning to add to his major league-leading RBI total and the Tampa Bay Rays beat the hapless Florida Marlins.

Jason Bartlett had three RBIs and two hits to hike his average to .376, and reserve catcher Michel Hernandez drove in two runs for the Rays (23-22), who have won three consecutive games to climb above .500 for the first time since April 13 .

Indians 7, Reds 6

At Cincinnati, Asdrubal Cabrera drove in the tiebreaking run in the eighth inning, overshadowing Joey Votto's remarkable return from a week of medical tests—homers in his first two at-bats—and rallying the Cleveland Indians past the Cincinnati Reds.

The Indians overcame a pair of deficits, with Cabrera's run-scoring grounder—his third RBI of the game—completing a rally that started against David Weathers (0-1).

Diamondbacks 8, Athletics 7, 11 innings

At Oakland, Calif., Stephen Drew singled in the go-ahead run in the top of the 11th and the Arizona Diamondbacks won their season-high fourth straight game.

Oakland's Jason Giambi hit his 400th career home run, becoming the 44th player in major league history to reach the mark. Jack Cust, Adam Kennedy and Nomar Garciaparra also connected as the A's pounded former ace Dan Haren, but still couldn't pull out the win.

Giants 5, Mariners 1

At Seattle, Juan Uribe got the big hit San Francisco had been missing, a two-out bases-clearing double in a five-run eighth inning, and Matt Cain tossed his first complete game this season in the Giants' 5-1 win over the Seattle Mariners on Saturday night.

On a maddening streak of failing to come up with a clutch hit, Uribe gave the Giants just that. With two outs and the bases loaded, Uribe lined a 1-0 pitch from Seattle reliever Mark Lowe to the wall in right-center field, scoring all three runners and ending the their 3-for-35 slump with runners in scoring position.

Padres 3, Cubs 1

At San Diego, Brian Giles drove in two runs for the second straight night and the San Diego Padres beat the struggling Chicago Cubs to extend their season-high winning streak to eight games.

The Cubs lost their season-high sixth straight. Right-hander Randy Wells (0-1) hadn't allowed a run in his first 20 big league innings before giving up Giles' two-run double with two outs in the fourth inning.

Dodgers 5, Angels 4, 10 innings

At Los Angeles, Juan Pierre drew a walk from Jose Arredondo with the bases loaded in the 10th inning, giving the Dodgers a victory over the Angels.

Matt Kemp and Casey Blake opened the 10th with singles against Arredondo (1-1), and Juan Castro was sent up to bat for reliever Jonathan Broxton with the intention of bunting the runners over. But Arredondo walked him, then walked Pierre on a 3-2 pitch to force in Kemp and give the Dodgers their third game-ending walk this season.

Vick meets probation officer at Va. courthouse

NORFOLK, Va. (AP)—Michael Vick met with probation officials Friday for the second time in the two days he's been home from prison, and prepared to begin a $10-an-hour construction job after the holiday weekend.

Wearing jeans, a light blue shirt and navy blue blazer, the former Atlanta Falcons star quarterback looked straight ahead as he entered the federal courthouse, escorted by his fiance and a member of his security team. He was joined inside by his lawyer, Lawrence Woodward.

Vick made no statements to reporters and didn't acknowledge a few onlookers who shouted encouragement. "Keep your head up, Mike," one yelled.

The meeting lasted nearly an hour. He later met with attorneys in Surry County, where the dogfighting operation was discovered, before returning to his home in Hampton.

Vick arrived home Thursday after a 1,200-mile car trip from Leavenworth, Kan., and within hours had his first meeting with probation officials, who fitted him with an electronic monitor. Vick must wear the device during his two-month home confinement, which will complete his 23-month sentence for operating a dogfighting ring.

Next week, he is expected to begin construction work for the W.M. Jordan Co.

Vick's long-term schedule includes:

■ a June 9 hearing in his Chapter 11 bankruptcy case in Norfolk.

■ his expected release from federal custody on July 20, when he would shed the monitor and start three years' probation.

NFL commissioner Roger Goodell has indefinitely suspended Vick and said the former standout will have to show remorse before he considers reinstating him.

NFL *loses right to moral ground on betting issue*

Coming soon to a state lottery near you: NFL team logos you can save after blowing 20 bucks on yet another worthless batch of scratch-off tickets.

Coming soon to the Delaware state lottery: A legitimate chance to win some money with what you know about your favorite NFL team.

One game steals your money in the name of pro football. The other at least gives you a fighting chance to test your skills.

Guess which one the NFL likes.

Yes, the league that is so terrified of gambling that it refused to allow a Las Vegas commercial during the Super Bowl a few years back is now in the gambling business itself. Aware that it can sell only so many $300 tickets to its games, the NFL has figured out a way to get a cut of some of the biggest gambling operations around.

Owners this week gave their approval for teams to put their logos on lottery tickets, in exchange for a piece of the action. The Patriots and Redskins immediately announced plans to do just that, and you can bet there will be plenty of team promotions urging folks to spend what little money they might have left on the new tickets.

No word yet on whether there will be kiosks next to the beer stands at the stadiums, but that won't likely be far behind. The one thing the NFL does know how to do is promote its product.

At the same time the league is entering the lottery business, though, it is threatening legal action if Delaware goes ahead with plans for a new lottery of its own. The NFL has serious problems with Delaware's new lottery, and not just because its greedy owners won't make money off of it. ***(AP)***

G4S keeps perfect record, Fiesta wins again

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

G4S cruised to its third straight win in as many games to keep the lead in the Inaugural Shirley's Coffee Shop Invitational Basketball League.

G4S defeated host Shirley's, 87-78, Friday night at the JP Center Basketball Court in Garapan to remain unbeaten in the six-team tournament.

In the first game, Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan is also on a streak after whipping Advanced X-Terminators, 96-71. Fiesta won its last two games after bowing to G4S in its debut, 60-84. The X-Terminators, which topped Shirley's in their first game, 96-92, dropped to a 1-1 slate.

Junar Guiab and Manolito Basa teamed up in giving G4S a clean slate, firing 24 and 19 points, respectively.

Guiab made eight first-quarter points, while Basa chipped in six, as G4S took a 24-17 lead after 10 minutes of play. Guiab and the rest of G4S players slowed down in the second canto, but Shirley's failed to make headway either in that period, helping G4S keep a 39-33 halftime lead.

Guiab and Basa buckled down to work in the third, making 10 points apiece to widen the gap, 68-53, entering the fourth period. Guiab picked up where he left off in the fourth, adding six more points, while Nat Banatasa nailed seven of his 13 points in the final period to keep the win.

Jersh Angeles led Shirley's losing cause with his 16 points. Fradel Sedillo and Jess Nicdao contributed 15 and 11 markers, respectively.

In the first game, Elmer Esdrelon connected on six triples to power Fiesta to an easy win.

Esdrelon top-scored for Fiesta with 32 points and drew help from Jon March Ong, who tallied 22 points.

Ong exploded for 14 points in the first quarter and lifted Fiesta to a 28-17 lead. Esdrelon took over from Ong in the second period, notching 15 markers, as Fiesta went to its bench with a 55-36 halftime lead.

Mike Olaitiman tried to bring the X-Terminators back into the game in the third period, but drew little help from his teammates. Olaitiman scored 12 points in the third and had only Rocyl Ritual backing him up. Advanced outscored Fiesta in the third, 20-18, but the former still faced a 15-point deficit, 58-73.

Esdrelon capped his long game brilliance with an 11-point output in the payoff period to lift Fiesta to a 25-point win.

First Game

Fiesta 96 – Esdrelon 32, Ong 22, Salazar 13, Mojar 6, Maliwanag 6, Garcia 6, Rodriguez 3, Solidum 2, Licop 2, Borlongan 2.

Advanced 92 – Olaitiman 28, Ritual 25, Apostol 10, Libres 2, Adlawan 2, Relata 2, Lontoc 2.

Scoring by quarters: 28-19, 55-36, 73-58, 96-71.

Second Game

G4S 87 – Guiab 24, Basa 19, Banatasa 13, Chavez 11, Sison 8, Larioza 4, Lapeceros 4, Aquino 2.

Shirley's 78 – Angeles 16, Sedillo 15, Nicdao 11, Laxa 9, Macario 8, Galario 7, Catungal 2, Drilon 2, Domingo 2.

Scoring by quarters: 24-15, 39-33, 68-53, 87-78.

JONES

From Page 28

Jones gained a semis entry after whipping J.R. Aquino, 6-1, 6-0.

Joining Jones and Chang in the finalists list of the junior singles were Thea Minor, Lila Mailman, Tammy Ackerman, Negahr Rastguiy, Mikayla Lopez, Emily Jones, Jake Lee, Colin Ramsey, and Carl Dela Cruz.

Lee earned a crack at the boys' 14-and-under title after beating Chris Cajigan in the semifinals of the lower half of the draw, 6-1, 6-3. Lee thwarted John Cano in the first round, 6-0, 6-3, and Clay McCullough-Stearns in the quarterfinals to advance in the semis against Cajigan. Cajigan defeated Cody Race, 6-1, 6-0, and Lucas Nutting, 6-4, 6-0, before bowing to Lee.

Lee will battle the boys' 14-and-under title against the winner of the Christian Miller-Daniel Camacho tiff, which was played yesterday afternoon, but results were unavailable at press time.

In the girls' 14-and-under, Rastguiy will square off with Lopez in the finals. Rastguiy downed Ilia Corella in straight sets in the semifinals, 6-3, 6-4, to set a title game against Lopez, who won over Jean Bracken, 6-3, 6-1.

Dela Cruz and Ramsey will duel for the boys' 10-and-under crown following their semis victories against Steven Goodwin, 6-0, and Moris Villanueva, 6-1, respectively.

The girls' 10-and-under division finals will feature Ackerman and Emily Jones. Ackerman gained a finals ticket after outclassing Sakura Imaya, 6-4, while Jones whipped Carol Lee in the other semis game, 6-3.

In the girls' 18-and-under division, Mailman topped Melody Johnson in the semis, 6-1, 6-1, and will face Thea Minor in the championship game this morning. Minor defeated Jodel Fernandez in the other semis game, 6-1, 6-4.

In the adults doubles, the pair of Mailman and Fernandez moved to the finals after walloping Sally Lee and Lydia Tan, 6-4, 6-4. The two junior players will duel in the women's open doubles finals the winner of the Cleofe Santos and Kasumi Imai and Thea and Joy Minor semis game.

In the mixed 4.0 doubles, Santos and Roy Pangelinan will meet Matty Buenaventura and Ronnie Lacbayo in the finals.

AHN

From Page 28

Jin received a trophy and $500 for topping the Championship Flight. HANMI awarded cash prizes and trophies to the top three finishers in each flight.

Other top winners in their respective flights were Edward Manibusan (Senior Flight), Sherlyn Jones (Ladies), Masaaki Nakamura (A Flight), Ysukasa Kuribayashi (B Flight), and Jess Atalig (C Flight).

Manibusan won in the scorecard playoff against Jess Taitano. Both golfers shot a 4-over par 76. Nick Sablan placed third with his net 80.

Nakamura had a one-stroke win over Jesse Seman in the A Flight with the former nailing a net 75 against the latter's net 76. Third placer Freddie Cataluna was two strokes off the lead with his net 77.

Kuribayashi prevailed in the B Flight by three strokes with his net 76 besting junior golfer Leina Kim's 79. Senate President Pete Reyes finished third with his net 82.

Atalig carded a net 85 for a two-stroke win over Tony Sablan, who scored a net 87. David Apatang tallied a net 88 to place third.

In the Ladies Flight, which had a double-peoria format, Jones recorded a net 73.20 to beat Aya Matsumoto (net 73.40), and Yuko Togawa (73.8).

Around 130 players participated in the annual tournament, which Hotel Association of Northern Mariana Islands organized to raise funds for its community projects.

LADY

From Page 28

the championship.

The Rays won Game 1 of the best-of-three title series, 14-5, but failed to wrap up the championship showdown early, as the Lady Ayuyus recovered in Game 2, 10-5.

In the do-or-die Game 3, Southern had control of the game in six and a half innings until a bottom of the seventh rally brought Kagman back in the game.

The Lady Rays led, 9-2, after six and a half innings, but saw their lead wiped out at the bottom of the seventh inning with Kagman scoring one run after another. A nine-run bottom of the seventh allowed the Lady Ayuyus to tie the game, 9-all.

Kagman had a chance to steal the win, as it had runners on first and second base with Remy Magofna at bat. Magofna swung, but had little power causing the ball to drop at the batter's box in front of Southern catcher Cabrera. Cabrera then picked up the ball and tagged Magofna out for the third out, sending the game to an extra inning.

At the top of the eighth, Gatamngin gave the Lady Rays the lead, 10-9, as she reached home plate on Teregeyo single. Teregeyo also made it home, along with two other Lady Rays to give Southern a 13-9 lead, going into the bottom of the eighth inning.

Teregeyo, who pitched in no relief for the Lady Rays, sealed the win for Southern after striking out Kagman's last two batters.

Kagman had a runner on third base when Teregeyo struck out the Lady Ayuyus' fourth batter for the third out. The Lady Ayuyus were called for the first out after second batter Lynnae Cabrera flied out to centerfield.

Players in the Southern dugout ran toward the mound after Teregeyo struck out Kagman's fourth batter to celebrate the Lady Rays' title win.

MISO president Joel Punzalan awarded a perpetual trophy to Southern's girls fast-pitch softball team in a brief ceremony at the "Tan Ge" ballfield.

FISHER

From Page 28

Bigger, because the Nuggets had won 16 consecutive games at home.

Huge, because the Nuggets had lost only three of 48 games that they'd led entering the fourth quarter.

Giant, because, let's face it, the Lakers lose this game, they probably lose the series.

Thus Fisher's speech, which he didn't want to repeat to the media, but was forced to because so many of his teammates were marveling about it.

"I told them this was a moment in time when you can define yourself," Fisher said. "I told them this was a moment when you can step into that destiny."

Fisher said he summed up the speech in a sentence.

"I told them this is your moment," he said.

And, man, did they ever grab it, with Bryant unearthing more disbelief and Pau Gasol finding more Pau and Lamar Odom freaking out the Nuggets one more time.

The Lakers turned it up, the Nuggets gagged it up, and in the end, Bryant was doubled over in exhaustion while the Nuggets' Carmelo Anthony—three points in the second half—was doubled over in front of his locker in remorse.

"This is hard," teammate Nene said from across the room. "This is really hard."

Do you know what's hard? It's hard to imagine that one team could lose two playoff games on the same simple play.

We interrupt this serious narrative to ask a somewhat silly question.

How can the Denver Nuggets advance to the NBA Finals when they can't even advance the ball inbounds?

It was the play of the night, your jaw probably dropped at home as our jaws were dropping on press row, 37.1 seconds remaining, Nuggets bringing in the ball at midcourt trailing by two.

With Odom doing 6-foot-10 jumping jacks in his face, Kenyon Martin couldn't find anybody open and called timeout.

Oh good, Denver fans undoubtedly sighed. This time he won't do anything stupid like they did in Game 1.

You'll remember, in Game 1, with 30.5 seconds left and the Nuggets trailing by two, Anthony Carter threw a looping inbounds pass that was intercepted by Trevor Ariza and led to a Lakers victory.

This time, because Martin had called timeout, the Nuggets knew what they were doing, right?

Wrong. This time, they were even dumber, with Martin throwing an awful pass for Anthony that was picked off by Ariza, leading to a second victory.

How can this happen twice? Just look at the two constants in the two plays.

First, there is Ariza, who has had a breakout series with defense that features perhaps the quickest acceleration on the team.

He can sneak up on guys, then pass them when they least expect it, even when everyone in the world is expecting it.

"It was kind of funny," said the understated Ariza, who left the arena limping with an injured hip and groin.

The second constant is Odom, who guarded the passer both times with a huge hovering presence.

"You've got a guy that big, with arms that go forever, jumping in your face and cutting down all the angles, the nerves start building in the passer," said Luke Walton. "I've been trying to throw the ball inbounds before, and it makes it tough."

Odom left the arena also limping because of a sore lower back, but not sore enough to keep him from flying.

"This is the kind of thing champions have to do," he said.

After Saturday night, for the first time this postseason, the Lakers were talking like that, like potential champions.

They were marveling over Bryant's fall-away three-pointer with J.R. Smith in his face, a shot with 1:30 left that gave the Lakers a lead they never lost.

They were waxing over Gasol's fadeaway jump shots in the face of Nene a few minutes earlier.

But mostly they were talking about Fisher's speech, the kind that might one day be put on T-shirts and repeated outside the Staples Center in Los Angeles, words fit for a parade, his Lakers stepping into their destiny.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Toronto	27	19	.587	-
Boston	25	18	.581	1/2
New York	25	18	.581	1/2
Tampa Bay	23	22	.511	3 1/2
Baltimore	18	25	.419	7 1/2

Central Division

Detroit	24	17	.585	-
Kansas City	21	22	.488	4
Minnesota	21	23	.477	4 1/2
Chicago	19	23	.452	5 1/2
Cleveland	17	27	.386	8 1/2

West Division

Texas	25	17	.595	-
Los Angeles	22	20	.524	3
Seattle	20	24	.455	6
Oakland	15	25	.375	9

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Philadelphia	23	18	.561	-
New York	23	19	.548	1/2
Atlanta	22	20	.524	1 1/2
Florida	19	25	.432	5/12
Washington	12	30	.286	11 1/2

Central Division

St. Louis Cardinals	26	17	.605	-
Milwaukee Brewers	26	17	.605	-
Cincinnati Reds	22	20	.524	3 1/2
Chicago Cubs	21	20	.512	4
Pittsburgh Pirates	19	24	.442	7
Houston Astros	18	23	.439	7

West Division

Los Angeles	30	14	.682	-
San Diego	21	22	.488	8 1/2
San Francisco	20	22	.476	9
Arizona	19	24	.442	10 1/2
Colorado	17	25	.405	12

Yesterday's Games

Texas 6, Houston 3
St. Louis 5, Kansas City 0
NY Mets 3, Boston 2
Chi White Sox 4, Pittsburgh 0
Atlanta 4, Toronto 3
Minnesota 6, Milwaukee 2
Colorado 4, Detroit 3
Baltimore 2, Washington 1
Tampa Bay 10, Florida 3
Cleveland 7, Cincinnati 6
Arizona 8, Oakland 7
San Francisco 5, Seattle 1
San Diego 2, Chi Cubs 1
LA Dodgers 5, LA Angels 4

BYRON NELSON CHAMPIONSHIP LEADERBOARD

Third Round

John Mallinger	67	65	65	197
Rory Sabbatini	68	64	65	197
D.A. Points	68	66	65	199
Dustin Johnson	68	65	66	199
Brian Davis	68	65	66	199
Kevin Streelman	67	69	64	200
Glen Day	69	66	65	200
Briny Baird	69	64	67	200
Marc Leishman	68	70	63	201
James Nitties	65	68	68	201
Charley Hoffman	71	66	65	202
Jeff Maggert	71	66	65	202
Bryce Molder	68	68	66	202
George McNeill	69	67	66	202
Fred Couples	69	66	67	202
James Driscoll	67	66	69	202
Mike Weir	66	71	66	203
Michael Letzig	68	68	67	203
Charles Howell III	66	69	68	203
Scott McCarron	66	69	68	203
Nicholas Thompson	73	66	64	203
Charlie Wi	73	66	64	203
Justin Leonard	75	63	66	204
Steve Marino	69	69	66	204
Jonathan Byrd	68	70	66	204
John Senden	71	68	65	204
Jesper Parnevik	67	68	69	204
Robert Allenby	67	67	70	204
Alex Cejka	69	69	67	205
J.J. Henry	71	68	66	205
Brad Adamonis	66	70	69	205
Robert Garrigus	70	66	69	205
Y.E. Yang	69	67	69	205
Kris Blanks	68	71	66	205
Danny Lee	69	67	69	205
Ted Purdy	74	65	66	205
Nathan Green	70	69	66	205
Brian Bateman	69	70	66	205
Ken Duke	65	69	71	205
Tommy Armour III	67	71	68	206
John Rollins	72	66	68	206

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOCAL SCORES

SHIRLEY'S STANDINGS

Shirley's Standings

G4S	3	0
Fiesta	2	1
MBI	1	1
Advanced	1	1
PTC	0	1
Shirley's	0	3

The Week in Sports

Ten-and-under runners compete in the 100m run in 2009 All Schools Track and Field Championships at the Oleai Sports Complex. ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Stars of track top headlines

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Last week's center stage belonged to around 1,000 student athletes who rain or shine showed what stuff they are made off during the 2009 All Schools Track and Field Championships at the Oleai Sports Complex.

These student-tracksters, who survived a series of qualifying tournaments, competed in running, jumping, and throwing events for two days in their quest for individual medals and glory for their respective schools.

After two days of hard work, Northern Marianas Athletics rewarded schools with trophies and students with medals.

Whispering Palms and Dandan Elementary School topped the girls' and boys' 8-and-under age group. Saipan International School and Brilliant Star settled for second and third, respectively, in the girls' U8. In the boys' U8, Kagman Elementary School finished second, while SIS placed third.

Saipan Community School topped the girls' U10, followed by Whispering Palms and SIS. In the boys' U10, the Top 3 finishers were William S. Reyes Elementary School, Tanapag and Whispering Palms

SCS ruled the girls' U12, beating WSR and Whispering Palms. The boys' U12 title went to WSR, which prevailed over Dandan and SIS.

Hopwood Junior High School and Marianas High School swept the girls' and boys' 14-and-under and 18-and-under divisions, respectively.

Sprinter Yvonne Bennett of Kagman High School led the top individual performers of the meet, as she nailed four gold medals. In the elementary division, Gabrielle Race of Whispering Palms walked away with three gold medals. More than 10 student-athletes went home with multiple gold medals.

The Patriots, meanwhile, went home last week with only one trophy, but it was a big one, as they won the Junior League division of the 2009 Saipan Little League Division in their first year in the event.

The Patriots, who ruled the Major League for three straight years, before moving up to the Junior League defeated Ol'Aces in the finals, 8-4, to bring their collection of trophies to seven.

Guamanian spearfisherman Myles Driscoll added two trophies to his stock after taking home the team and individual awards in the 3rd Annual Saipan Spearfishing Tournament.

Driscoll and teammate Mike "Todd" Genereux hauled in the most fish with their catch tipping the scales at 150.5 lbs. Last year's winners Scott Russell and Peter Houk settled for a runner-up finish after netting 75.5 lbs. Sasamoto brothers, Felix and Greg, came in third with their 64-lbs catch

Driscoll won his second trophy after winning the individual division courtesy of his haul of 86 lbs.

Trophies were on display during the opening of the Inaugural Shirley's Coffee Shop Invitational Basketball League at the JP Center Basketball Court.

Six teams are entered in the tournament with G4S and Micronesian Brokers, Inc. winning their opening games against Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan, 84-60, and Pacific Trading, Co., 75-72, respectively.

The 40-member Koala Wanderers International Club of Germany returned to Saipan last week and had their usual trekking here and on Tinian.

The group joined 54 other walkers for the Saipan phase of the Koala Wanderers IVV Saipan and Tinian Walk, a 5- and 10-km jaunt from Hafadai Beach Hotel to the Japanese Tank and Oleai Beach Bar and Grill and back. On Tinian, the Manfred Trettin-led group visited the historic site where Little Boy was loaded aboard the *Enola Gay* more than 60 years ago.

In other events last week, the Masters division of the Navy Hill caging had already started its three-team playoff round with C.K. Legends and MDX Armatech having one win apiece to boost their bids for a finals appearance.

The 2009 Budweiser Saipan Major League is closing in to the playoff round with the Rangers getting a good chance of taking the pennant with their 11-1 record.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
MBI's Art Trajano, left, goes for a layup against PTC's Francis Sarmiento, during the second game in the opening day of the Shirley's Coffee Shop caging last week at the JP Center Basketball Court in Garapan.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
A Hopwood Junior High School student prepares to throw the shut put during the 2009 All Schools Track and Field Championships at the Oleai Sports Complex.

MARK RABAGO
Myles Driscoll, second left, and Mike "Todd" Genereux, right, are all smiles after winning the team competition of the 3rd Annual Saipan Spearfishing Tournament last Saturday. Also in photo are Marianas Apnea Spearfishing Club president Morito Asai, left, and Driscoll and Genereux's skipper Ben Camacho.

MARK RABAGO
Participants of the Saipan phase of the Koala Wanderers IVV Saipan and Tinian Walk pose for a photo prior to the event Tuesday afternoon at the Hafadai Beach Hotel garden.

Participants in the 800m run make their first turn at the Oleai track during the 2009 All Schools Track and Field Championships.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Bryant's late 3-pointer sparks Lakers past Nuggets

Kobe Bryant's 3-pointer wasn't nearly as dramatic as LeBron James' but equally effective. Bryant's big shot over J.R. Smith gave Los Angeles a one-point lead with just over a minute left Saturday night and sparked the Lakers to a 103-97 victory. 24

Saipan Tribune
Sports

Stars of track top headlines

Last week's center stage belonged to around 1,000 student athletes who rain or shine showed what stuff they are made off during the 2009 All Schools Track and Field Championships at the Oleai Sports Complex. 27

Ahn Jin leads HANMI Golf winners

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

HANMI
HOTEL ASSOCIATION NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Former junior golfer Ahn Jin announced his entry to the Championship Flight with a bang, beating 10 other participants in the centerpiece division of the 8th Annual HANMI Charity Golf Classic Tournament last Saturday at the Coral Ocean Point course.

Jin fired a 1-over par 73 on the Agingan Point course to win his debut in the Championship Flight and stun former HANMI Golf winners and veterans Jeff Taylor and Jess Wabol.

Taylor, who won in the 2007 edition of the fundraiser, settled for second place with his 4-over par 76, while 2008 titlist Wabol finished only fourth with a 7-over par 79. Wabol actually tied with Adam Hardwicke, but the latter won in the scorecard playoff.

Taylor and Wabol occupied the No. 1 and 2 spots after the first nine holes with the former going 1-over par 37 and the latter hitting 2-over par 38.

The 19-year-old Jin had a slow start with his 4-over par 40 and tied with three others for third after the first nine holes before redeeming himself in the last nine holes.

Jin birdied holes No. 11, 15, and 18 and saved par on six other holes for an impressive 3-under par 33.

Jin, in an interview with *Saipan Tribune* during the awards ceremony Saturday night at Hyatt Regency Saipan, said the victory in HANMI will boost his confidence when he competes in the Championship Flight in the 2009 Tournament of Champions.

See AHN on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Ahn Jin shows the trophy and cash prize he won in the Championship Flight of the 8th Annual HANMI Charity Golf Classic Tournament during the awards ceremony last Saturday at the Hyatt Regency Saipan.

Lady Rays edge Ayuyus in fast-pitch tourney

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Saipan Southern High School needed an extra inning to thwart Kagman High School, 13-9, in the deciding Game 3 of their title duel in the Inaugural 2009 MISO Fast-pitch Softball Tournament Friday at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan Ballfield.

Regina Gatamngin, Tatiana Cabrera, Naithy Flores, and Coquina Teregeyo scored one run apiece in the eighth inning to give the Lady Rays

See LADY on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Members and coaching staff of Saipan Southern High School's girls fast-pitch softball team are all smiles after winning the Inaugural 2009 MISO Fast-pitch Softball Tournament against Kagman last Friday at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan Ballfield.

Jones vs Chang in boys' 18 finals

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Rafael Jones moved up to the boys' 18-and-under division of the 2009 DFS Micronesian Tennis Championships and is a win away from his first title in the higher age group after advancing to the finals yesterday at the Pacific Islands Club tennis courts.

Jones, who won the boys' 14-and-under division title of the DFS netfest last year, topped Nathan Nutting in the semifinals in straight sets, 6-1, 6-4, to arrange a title match against Woo Suk Chang.

Chang, who drew a bye in the first round, won in the other semis match, beating Sung Hooh Ham, 6-2, 6-4. Ham advanced to the semis after downing Andy Nutting, 6-4, 6-3, while Nathan prevailed over George Race, 6-4, 6-2.

See JONES on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Woo Suk Chang, left, and Thea Minor, advance to the finals of the 18-and-under singles division in the 2009 DFS Micronesian Tennis Championships yesterday at the Pacific Islands Club tennis courts.

By BILL PLASCHKE
(c) 2009, Los Angeles Times

Fisher's words lead to defining moment

DENVER—He had swiveled on defense, bricked on offense, the aging point guard scuffling through a long night in this longest of springs.

But in the waning moments of the furious storm that was Game 3 of the Western Conference finals against the Denver Nuggets on Saturday night, Derek Fisher knew he had one thing that his younger teammates didn't.

Some would call it wisdom. Some would call it experience. Some would forgo any definition and just call it soul.

Whatever it was, Fisher gave it to the Lakers, dug deep through his three championship rings and gave it all, calling them together during a fourth-quarter timeout and shouting above the Pepsi Center madness in words they will remember all spring.

"Derek pulled us all in the huddle and just reminded everybody, this is what it's about," said Kobe Bryant. "This is where you're tested. To be a champion, you've got to respond."

Standing in front of his sagging body, their young hearts listened.

Soon, across the court, up in the arena, throughout the NBA landscape, eventually everyone else heard.

They weren't just words, they were fuel, sparking his team to blow away the Nuggets by two touchdowns in the final quarter and sprint away with a 103-97 theft that Bryant called a landmark.

"I rank this right up there with some of the biggest road wins we've had since I've been a Laker," he said.

Big, because they probably should have lost after trailing throughout the game, including at the start of the fourth quarter.

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